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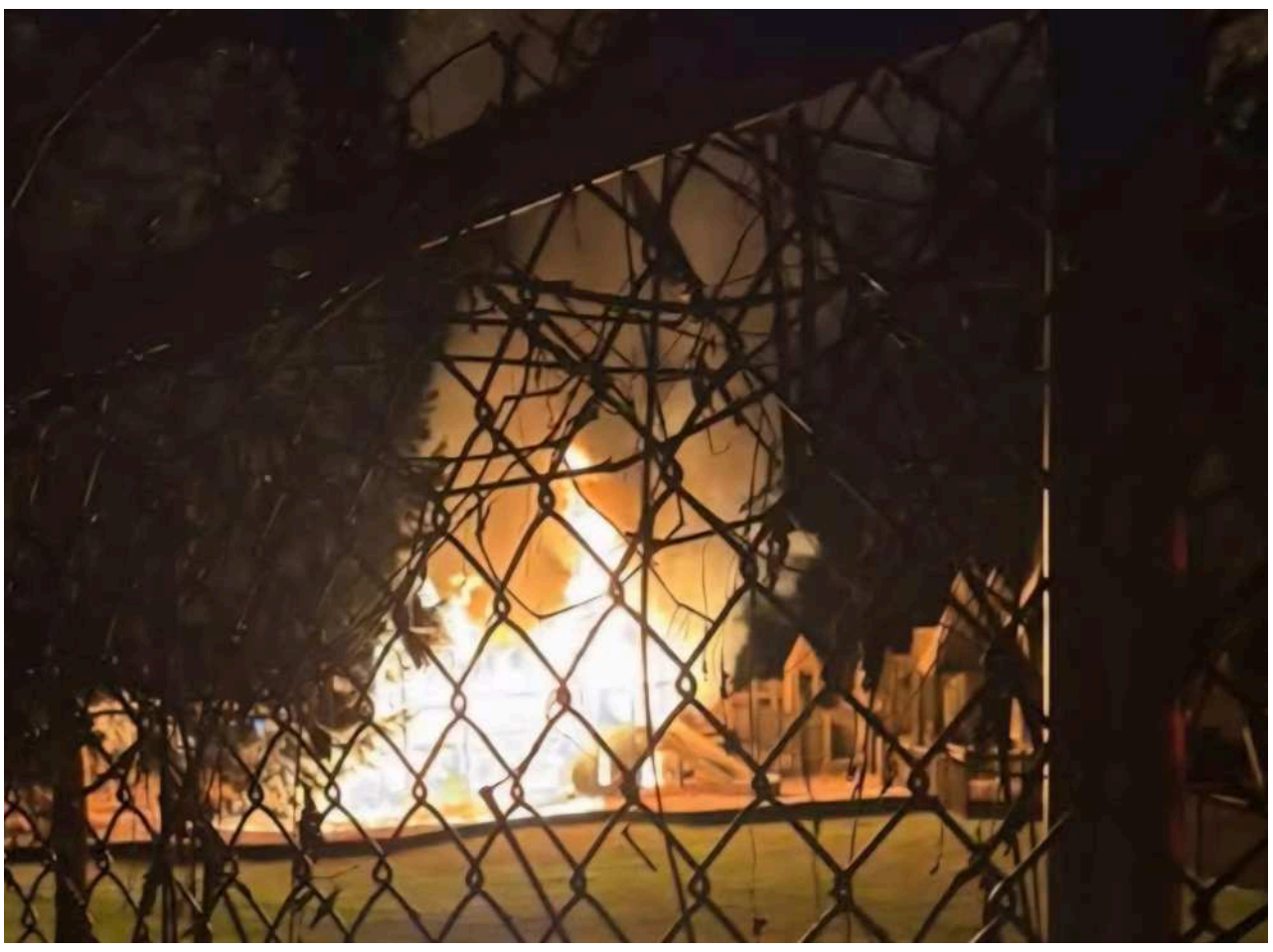

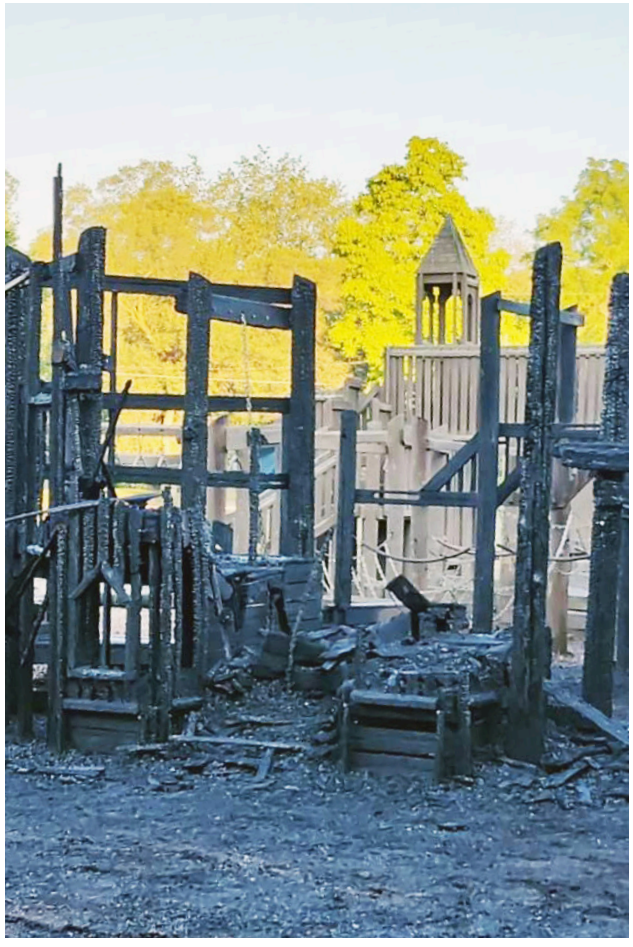

A fire was reported at Otsego's Northside Park shortly before 1 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 2. The blaze damaged the park's large wooden playground structure, which was build through a community-based effort in 1996. (Photos provided)

Otsego's Northside Park playground damaged in blaze

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO—The large wooden playground structure at Northside Park in Otsego was engulfed in flames during the early-morning hours on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

According to Otsego City Manager Aaron Mitchell, the fire is estimated to have started at approximately 12:45 a.m.

"A neighbor called 911 to report the fire and, according to our fire chief, the blaze appeared to have been burning for about 10 or 15 minutes before crews arrived," Mitchell said.

The investigation into the origins of the fire remains ongoing, but Mitchell said early indications are that it was intentionally set.

"I'm no investigator, but logic would tell you that someone had to do this on purpose," he said. "There is no reason for a fire to be around the structure, and it would almost certainly take some kind of accelerant to set the structure on fire."

Based on photos he saw of the blaze, Mitchell feared the worst: that the structure would be a complete loss.

However, the damage appears to have been contained to a 20-to-40-foot section on the structure's east side.

"The fire looked so intense that I figured there would be nothing left," Mitchell said. "But our hope now is that this will be more of a repair effort than a replace effort.

"The thing is, they don't make playground structures like this anymore. The price of lumber has gone up so much since the structure was built and the cost of insuring a new structure like this has also skyrocketed. I'm told it would have cost a million dollars between materials and insurance if we had to completely replace the structure as it was."

Mitchell said the City is pushing for the insurance company to move quickly so repairs can start as soon as possible.

"We know what this playground means to the community," he said. "If you have a child and live near Otsego, you've likely been there. So we're pushing for the insurance side to get taken care of ASAP so we can finish the repairs ASAP and get the park open again ASAP.

Known affectionately by many community members as "castle park," the playground structure at Northside Park was constructed through a community-driven effort.

After raising more than $100,000 to purchase the materials in 1996, community members came together to build the wooden play structure as well as a skateboard ramp.

"It's so sad," Mitchell said of the damage done by the fire. "I've already had several people call up and say, 'Hey, I helped build that park.' It truly was a community effort to get it build and it has been a community gathering place ever since.

"Hopefully, we can get it repaired and open again very soon."

Otsego Creative Arts Festival scheduled for Sept. 27

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Since its inception nearly four decades ago, the Creative Art Festival has become an autumn tradition in downtown Otsego.

That tradition will continue on Saturday, Sept. 27, as the festival celebrates its 38th year of existence from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Clarissa McDonald serves as chairman of the Creative Arts Festival Committee and is Board Director for the Otsego Plainwell Area Chamber

"The Otsego Creative Arts Festival is highly anticipated and well attended each year," McDonald said. "This event is a wonderful way to bring our community together and celebrate local talent, businesses and traditions."

Described as a "celebration bringing the community together in downtown Otsego," the festival is, as always, free and family friendly.

"The Otsego Creative Arts Festival has been a beloved tradition for nearly four decades, offering something for all ages and interests," organizers said in a release.

The Creative Arts Festival parade and pet parade are once again among the highlights of the event, with the parades scheduled to step off at 12:45 p.m. and run along M-89 in downtown Otsego.

Recently retired Otsego Public School superintendent Jeff Haase will serve as grand marshal for the parade.

Registration for the pet parade is from 11:30 a.m. to noon, with judging taking place at noon. Prizes will be awarded for best costume, most unique pet and cutest pet.

Those wishing to participate in the car show can do so by registering between 8 and 11 a.m. Cost is $20 and the first 100 vehicles will receive a welcome bag and dash plaque.

In addition, there will also be an antique tractor show and motorcycle show. Awards for the car, antique tractor and motorcycle shows are scheduled for 3 p.m.

A group of Girl Scouts participates in the Otsego Creative Arts Festival parade last year. The parade and pet parade are both part of this year's festival once again. (Photo provided)

Children's activities include the Friendship Family Festival hosted at First Baptist Church from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with games, inflatables and a free lunch.

There will also be free pony rides, the Home Depot Kid's Workshop, Mari's Country Critters Petting Zoo, free face painting and Otsego Fire Department family activities.

But wait, as they say in those late-night infomercials, there's more.

Because more than 80 craft, business and non-profit vendors will be set up in the Otsego United Methodist Church and Winkel Funeral Home parking lots. For food, several food trucks will be on hand in addition to local restaurants such as Maude's Taphouse, Judy's Restaurant, Mezzo Coffee House and Our Table Family Restaurant.

"Join us and be part of one of Otsego's most anticipated community events," organizers said.

For more information about the Creative Arts Festival, visit facebook.com/OtsegoCreativeArtsFest.

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Ganges Township Commission rejects controversial RV Park

By Gari Voss

The road has been bumpy to say the least since May 2025 when a Special Use Land Permit requested by Bobbi Jo Beyersdorf of the Central Florida Resort Management, L.L.C. to establish Saugatuck Meadows Campground reached the Ganges Planning Commission. When the citizens of Ganges Township heard of the request and that Beyersdorf's partner was Michael O'Connor of Campit Outdoor Resort, citizens took notice and voiced their concerns.

Ganges Township has two campgrounds in close proximity to one another on the north side of 118th Avenue - Woods Luxury Camping and Campit Outdoor Resort. After the Ganges Township Zoning Committee approved the Special Use Permit in April, the request was passed to the Township Planning Commission. The commission of five members had to review the site plan and determine if all six standards would be properly met in order to complete the Special Land Use Permit request.

"A Special Land Use Permit must meet six criteria," explained Dick Hutchins, a commissioner and township trustee. "A key standard is that the site plan must demonstrate that the use would be harmonious with the surrounding properties."

The requirement of compatibility with adjacent property uses is the first on the criteria list. The other key standards are protection of public health, safety, and welfare; capacity of public services and facilities; conservation of the natural environment; promotion of zoning intent and purpose; and accommodating special land uses.

Citizens often referenced the water and sewage resources in Ganges Township, and the fact that adequate public services of police, and fire could not be met if another campground was approved. In addition, it was voiced that the parcels of land on the perimeter of the identified campground were rural homes and agricultural. Therefore, citizens felt that another campground would not just detract from the current land uses but overtax the infrastructure for health and safety.

Over the months, the attendance at both the Planning Commission and Township Board meetings increased. On June 10, 2025, the Township Board issued a moratorium that would prohibit the establishment of additional campgrounds or recreational vehicle parks, but since Saugatuck Meadows Campground had begun the process before the moratorium, it seemed to be exempt from this moratorium.

The July meetings of the Township Board and Planning Commission reiterated points relating to the six key standards. Comments stressed the fact that Michael O'Connor, who owns and operates Campit, had been breaking multiple township ordinances for noise, public entertainment, and unapproved parking at that facility and on the property across 118th Avenue. Even when approached about the ordinances, the problems continued.

On August 27, 2025, the Ganges Planning Commission moved their meeting to the Glenn Community Center in anticipation of a large attendance. During the meeting, the citizens repeated information related to the six key standards. In addition, they again shared facts that the township has not been able to ensure that Campit follows township ordinances.

In the end, no matter how many statements were made about the problems with Campit, that was not the determining factor for the 3 to 2 decision that the request for the Special Land Use Permit be denied.

"The commissioners had to focus on the current request," reiterated Hutchins. "The township board will need to deal with ordinance concerns."

The determination rode on the fact that the establishment of a campground along the south side of 118th Avenue was not compatible with the surrounding land uses. Even though the health department did not seem to be concerned with the health elements of water and sewer, and citizens brought up the lack of ordinance enforcement by police and thoughts about fire protection, that criteria did not seem a problem.

Commissioner Edward Gregory pointed out that the Saugatuck Meadow's proposal was inconsistent with the township's Master Plan. The density of the RV sites of 4,600 square feet was smaller than Ganges Township's 1.5 acre requirement. He believed that the density was 14 times normal human occupations which would mean 14 times the noise, smoke, traffic, activity, water consumption, waste disposal, and public services at the single address.

"Our community overwhelmingly supports and agrees with Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Badra and their votes to deny the Saugatuck Meadows application. This was a great victory for Ganges Township residents," stated Sue Mack, a Ganges resident. "What hasn't changed is we still have a nuisance neighbor in Campit who continues to violate and ignore ordinances. We started the summer complaining about the behavior, and we are ending the summer in the exact same position. There has been little enforcement, and this has only exacerbated the frustration of the neighbors. Our township board needs to exercise stricter oversight and enforcement."

Even though there were some sharp exchanges during the meeting between commissioners and residents, as the citizens filed out, there were smiles. At this point, the 25 acre proposed project of 89 campsites has been denied. Only time will tell if Beyersdorf and O'Connor will file a suit against the township like O'Connor did in 2004 when Campit doubled its size.

One dead, five injured in US 131 crash

One person died and five people got hurt last Wednesday after a two-car crash on US-131, according to the Allegan County Sheriff's Office.

Around 5:26 a.m. deputies were called out to US-131 near the 59 mile marker (124th Avenue) for an accident involving multiple cars. The crash closed US-131 up to mile marker 61, just north of 128th Avenue, deputies said.

Five people were taken to the hospital for various, non-life threatening injuries, according to the sheriff's office.

One person, however, was found unresponsive at the scene.

Medics were able to get that person's pulse back through life-saving efforts, but the person died while they were on the way to the hospital, deputies said.

As of late Wednesday morning, a preliminary investigation suggests that speed was a factor in the crash, according to the sheriff's office.

Names of all individuals involved are being withheld due to the ongoing investigation and notifications that need to be made to family members.

Southbound US-131 near the 61st mile marker has since reopened for travel, according to the sheriff's office.

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 6 • 7:00PM

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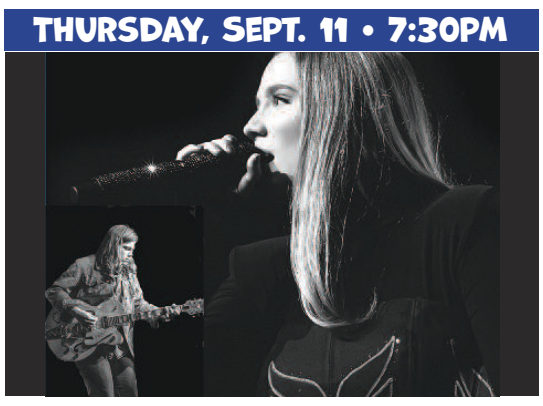
THURSDAY, SEPT. 11 • 7:30PM

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Parking $5.00 / Available at the gate Rates (25.00) apply to parking any vehicle larger than a standard size van (bus, motorhome, 5th Wheel, etc.)

FAIR WEEK SPECIALS

Sunday, September 7 Taste of Allegan County Fair 1pm – 3pm.

Monday / September 8 Children's Day / Car Load Day – Admission per car load is $20.00 / All Rides are $3.00 each

Tuesday, September 9 Senior Day Seniors admission $5.00 until 12:00 noon. (Does not include parking)

Wednesday, September 10 Ladies Day/Ladies admission $5.00 until 12:00 noon. (Does not include parking)

Thursday, September 11 Veteran's Day FREE admission (including parking) for all persons with military confirmation all day.

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As music stops, events continue throughout autumn

By Gari Voss

Sadly, as music lovers gathered along the Allegan Riverfront on Friday, August 29, 2025, and Saturday, August 30, 2025, it was to the last strains of Rollin' on the River and Music on Mahan. The music matched the crowds with Cowboy Angels bringing harder rock to the Riverfront Stage and the Williams Family bringing a blend of folk, country, bluegrass, and gospel to Mahan Park's covered performance structure. Both events brought large crowds prepared for the cooler temperatures.

In between the weekend's music opportunities, Lake Alleganites decorated boats and formed a parade. Residents used creativity and interesting materials to construct themed boats. Like all great parades, it ended in a party!

Though the summer entertainment is coming to a close, there is no need to fear that high quality entertainment and community gatherings will disappear from the City of Allegan. September 5-13, 2025, the Allegan County Fair arrives complete with a variety of entertainers and action on the Grandstand. September 26th – 28th, finds the beloved The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe at the Griswold Auditorium thanks to the talents of the Allegan Community Players. September 28th will be the last Allegan Antique Market of the 2025 season, and it will feature many treasures and some discounts.

Moving into October, the Allegan Downtown businesses will host the Allegan Hoot and Howl on October 3rd and 4th. Residents and visitors can enjoy shopping and special surprises. October 10th, 11th, 17th, and 18th take audiences back to the Griswold Auditorium for Escanaba in Da Moonlight. The proceeds will go to the Lions Club projects and Griswold improvements. The month will end with Downtown Trick or Treating on October 31st.

Jump into November and enjoy Alastair Watt on the Pure MI Stand-Up Comedy Tour Friday, November 14, 2025, 8pm at the Griswold Auditorium. Then the action will move into December with Festive Fridays and the Allegan Brass concert before Christmas arrives and the New Years Eve Ball falls.

The Cowboy Angels kept toes tapping and heads bobbing during the final Rollin' on the River concert, August 29, 2025, on the Allegan Riverfront. As the 2025 season came to a close, concert goers are already voicing their requests to Parker Johnson at City Hall for bands for 2026. The series is hosted by the City of Allegan and sponsored by local businesses. Photo: G. Voss

With the Kalamazoo River as their backdrop and the terraced lawn filled with audience members from Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo and the Lakeshore, the Williams Family entertained with a blending of classic folk, country, bluegrass, and gospel music. The concert was the last in the 2025 Music on Mahan Series organized by the Allegan Chapter of Kazoo Folklife and sponsored by numerous businesses in the Allegan area. Photo: G. Voss

But Allegan downtown is not the only place to find entertainment and community events.

Saturday, October 26th will find mystery lovers at Fenn Valley for Murder in Sin City that will benefit Beautify Pullman. Pullman will also host Oktoberfest fun and in December, the lovely decorated Christmas Trees in the Pavillion of the Pullman Town Square.

A jog over to Fennville will find the 4th Friday events continuing on September 26, 2025. October 11-14, 2025, is the Goose Festival. Beginning Thursday, the city rolls out special activities that include a 5K race, special art exhibits by Steve French at the library and student art at City Hall, a carnival, the Goose Market, car show, live music and more. On December 6th, there will be an all day Holiday Celebration with reindeer, mailing a letter to the North Pole, meeting and greeting Santa, plenty of holiday themed crafts, and ending with the lighting of the Christmas lights.

Looking to Wayland, the city will have their chilling Monster Mash on October 25th. The Harvest Market comes on November 8th. December opens with the Chamber Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 6th.

Between Fennville and Wayland, the Village of Hopkins celebrates with Vikings Day on Saturday, September 27, 2025. The afternoon and evenings activities include family games, Viking Ship Races, Vike Tike Box Boats, a Chili Cookoff, food vendors, and ends with a bonfire. More will be added to the calendar as the months progress.

Closer to home, December 4-7, 2025, opens with the Festival of Trees at Camp Kidwell. In person, visitors will walk through cabins and the lodge to admire and bid on wonderful trees, wreaths, and decorations that will be delivered ready for the holidays. There are craft opportunities for the DIY crafters, cookie decorating with Mrs. Claus, visits with Santa, and wonderful meals from breakfast through dinner. The ticketed Saturday night dinner and live auction include multiple treasures. Online shoppers can peruse the cabin offerings, make their bids, and have home delivery of items won.

Therefore, community-minded partiers do not fret, autumn and winter in the Allegan area will offer multiple opportunities to gather and enjoy friends, good food, and the Social District.

The winner of the Lake Allegan Parade of Boats on Sat., Aug. 30, 2025, was SNOOPY. Snoopy and Woodstock relaxed while their friends, complete in costume, slowly chugged around Lake Allegan on a beautiful Michigan afternoon. Photo: Maureen Ann

Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of September 1, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Be sure to order your tickets for entry, rides & shows
Allegan County Fair
Fri., Sept. 5, 7:30pm: Jeff Dunham & Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias
Sat., Sept. 6, 7pm: Cole Swindell
Sun., Sept. 7, 6pm: Off-Road Derby
Mon., Sept. 8, 6pm: Allegan Co. Fair Parade
Tues., Sept. 9, 7pm: NTPA Truck & Tractor Pulls
Wed., Sept. 10, 7pm: Flying Star Rodeo
Thurs., Sept. 11, 7:30pm: Gabby Barrett
Fri., Sept. 12, 7pm: SJO Motocross
Fri., Sept. 12, 8pm: Ne-Yo
Sat., Sept. 13, 7pm: Demolition Derby

By Mon., Sept. 8, 2025: Register for the Sept. 10th Anchors Away! Cruise
Star of Saugatuck River Boat Saugatuck

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Sept. 3, 2025, 6-8pm: Ugly Brush workshop
Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025, 1-3pm: Ugly Brush workshop
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn about directional strokes, building dark into lights, bringing depth to your piece. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Wed., Sept. 3, 2025, 6pm: Pintesting: Fall Leaf Bowl
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Make a fall leaf bowl. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Play & Learn with Help Me – Families can play and learn about "Talking is Teaching" campaign.

Thurs., Sept. 4, 2025, 6pm: Composting 101 Workshop
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
Learn composting from the Great Lakes Mushroom Co & ACD. Register at alleganc d.org/workshops.

Fri., Sept. 5, 2025, 4pm: Stuffed Animal Sleepover Storytime
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
K-5th graders can bring a favorite stuffed animal friend to the library for storytime. The animal friend will spend the night, and kids can come to breakfast on Saturday and prick up their friend. Register at 269 673-4625.

Sat., Sept. 6, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10am: Drone Club - Meet Alan behind the library to fly drones, weather permitting. All expertise welcome.
10am: Breakfast Buddies – Participants of Stuffed Animal Sleepover come for breakfast and to pick up their stuffies.

Mon., Sept. 8, 2025: Register for Anchors Away! Cruise
Star of Saugatuck River Boat Saugatuck
Register to join the Safe Harbor crew on this fundraiser the securing materials for the Safe Harbor Safe Kids Prevention Program. The outing includes hearty appetizers and one complimentary non-alcoholic beverage along the way. A cash bar is available. Contact development@safeharborcac.org to register.

Mon., Sept. 8, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
1pm: Craft & Snack - Bring a craft project, snack and chat.

Tues., Sept. 9, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can come for stories and activities.
6:30pm: Book Club – The Good Lord Bird – Join the discussion.

Tues., Sept. 9, 2025, 1-2pm: Love INC 101
Love, In the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
Current volunteers can invite someone who would like to volunteer. For additional information, call (269) 751-2533

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 2pm: Recess for Adults
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
Come and enjoy conversation and games with friends of The Arc.

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 6-8pm: Anchors Away! Dinner Cruise
Star of Saugatuck River Boat Saugatuck
Join the Safe Harbor crew on this fundraiser the securing materials for the Safe Harbor Safe Kids Prevention Program. The outing includes hearty appetizers and one complimentary non-alcoholic beverage along the way. A cash bar is available. Contact development@safeharborcac.org to register.

Wed., Sept. 10, 2025, 6-8pm: Sunflowers
Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025, 1-3pm: Sunflowers
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn to paint Sunflowers! Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime - 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
4pm: TAG – All teens can bring friends, share snacks, and plan teen activities.

Thurs., Sept. 11, 2025, 6pm: Mushroom 101 Workshop
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
A hands-on workshop with the Great Lakes Mushroom Company. Register at alleganc d.org/workshops.

Sat., Sept. 13, 2025, 11am-1:30pm: Acrylic Ink Abstracts
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Come out and play with acrylic inks and water. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Mon., Sept. 15, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
3:30pm: Kids' Anime Club - Bring your own Beyblade spinning tops and challenge friends to see who wins! All ages.
6pm: Craftastic – Halloween Potion Bottles. Decorate Halloween Potion Bottles. Register at 269 673-4625.

Tues., Sept. 16, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime. 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: Kids' Gaming Club. All ages can enjoy the new kids' Gaming Club.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025, 6:30pm: "Nerd" themed Pub Quiz
Tantrick Brewing Hubbard St. Allegan
Join us for a special "nerd"-themed Pub Quiz in collaboration with Tardy's Underground Comics and Collectibles! Registration begins at 5:30pm.

Wed., Sept. 17, 2025: Bike Nights
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Thurs., Sept. 18, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime. 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
3:30pm: The Science of Cotton Candy. All ages can join the Dynamic School Assemblies.
6pm: Great Lakes, Great Stories: Felt Mansion. Register at 269 673-4625 to learn about a century of innovation, elegance, and transformation of the Felt Estate.

Thurs., Sept. 18, 2025, 1-3pm: Hydro Dip Switch plates
Brave Art Studios & Gallery 1873 Lincoln Rd. Allegan
Learn how to hydro dip using solvent based paints on these oversized switch plate and outlet covers. Register & make payment via https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr.

Fri., Sept. 19, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
2pm: Professional Pumpkin Carving with the Lord of the Gourd. All ages can learn how to create unique pumpkin creations.
6pm: Teen Tech Night. 6-12 graders can experience virtual reality, explore the realm of 3-D printing, and play video games with friends. Register at 269 673-4625.

Fri., Sept. 19, 2025, 8:30pm-12:30am: Glow Disc Golf Night
First Baptist Church S. M-40 Allegan
Fun for the family to support the Congregational Kitchen free meals.

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 9am-1pm: Fall Native Plant Sale Pickup
Allegan Conservation District 2412 Taft Rd. Allegan
Order ahead or drop in to select from leftovers. www.alleganc d.org/fallsale

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 10am-4pm: Handmade & Boutique Fall Market
Allegan Fairgrounds 150 Douglas St. Allegan
Come shop in autumn vibes - unique gifts, one-of-a-kind home décor, or must have boutique pieces, there is something for everyone!

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025: Allegan High School 68th Reunion
Trestle Stop Hamilton
The class of 1957, the last class to graduate from the old Allegan High School, will have their 68th class reunion.

Sat., Sept. 20, 2025, 4-6pm: Eccentric Garden Plant Workshop
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sun., Sept. 21, 2025, 12 noon: Final Mud Run
Bear Swamp MudRun 2293 28th St. Allegan
Get ready to run. Tailgating is allowed with coolers and grills. Plus Hogg's Nest BBQ will be onsite.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE
Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Diaper Closet – monthly diaper program

They're in Good Hands Here
From puppies and kittens to senior pets, our caring and experienced team is here to provide your pet with the very best care and a compassionate touch.
Dr. Shanna Jack
Dr. Chris Buckley
and welcoming
Dr. Melinda Kelley
Bluegrass Animal Clinic
Accepting New Patients
Bluegrass Animal Clinic
594 10th St, Plainwell
(269) 685-5894
New Extended Hours
8:30am-1pm, 2pm-5:30pm M-F

THE REGENT THEATRE
211 Trowbridge St., Allegan
www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737

Friday, Sept. 5 - Thursday, Sept. 11
7pm Feature • $5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • $4
WEEKLY SPECIALS
Tuesdays- 25 cent Popcorn
FLASHBACK FRIDAY! Sponsored by by Waanders Concrete
The Blues Brothers (1980) • Sept. 26 @ 9:30pm • $5

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I-94 to Exit 104 | 11177 Michigan Avenue | Battle Creek, MI 49014
Must be 21 or older. Tickets based on availability. Schedule subject to change.

Community Events

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org, (269) 455-9452

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

Wayland Farners Market
Apr. – Oct. Wed. & Sat.
Downtown Wayland

FUN FOR THE FAMILY

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Check on the Core and More class. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.
Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com
Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com
Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

The Fairways:
237 Hubbard St. Allegan (269) 655-5890
Get assistance with accuracy, distance, course management, club selection, or distance control. Work on a simulator, and treat it like a practice session at the course to achieve overall game improvement.

Tilt 118: Ice Cream, Pinball Machines, Food and More
Tilt 118 118 Brady St. Allegan
Pinball Leagues, Pinball Classes, Arcade Rental
Contact: Email: smalltownamusements@gmail.com; Phone: 269 720-8137

NOTE:
This Community Calendar is an opportunity for all organizations in Allegan County to post events. Please, remember to send your event information to editor@allegannews.com.

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Michigan's School Funding Stalemate Is a Disservice to Every Student

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

Here we go again. Another budget cycle, another bitter fight in Lansing over how to fund our schools. This year's stalemate feels particularly sharp, with both sides dug in and unwilling to budge. Meanwhile, the people who bear the brunt of this dysfunction are not the lawmakers making speeches, but the students, teachers, and families who depend on the state's education system.

At the heart of the dispute is a fundamental question: How should Michigan spend its education dollars? Democrats, led by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, have pushed for broad-based increases to per-pupil funding, along with targeted programs like free school meals, early childhood education, and expanded mental health support. They argue that every child, no matter their ZIP code, deserves access to a full and fair education.

Republican lawmakers counter with concerns about fiscal sustainability and fairness. They favor a more restrained budget, with dollars steered more narrowly toward struggling schools or specific programs rather than blanket increases across the board. They argue that simply pouring more money into the system doesn't guarantee results and that accountability measures must accompany spending.

Both arguments have merit. Michigan's school performance data is troubling—reading and math proficiency rates have stagnated or declined, particularly since the pandemic. Teacher shortages are acute across the state. Rural districts are struggling to keep schools open five days a week. Yet Detroit and other urban districts face an entirely different set of challenges, from crumbling infrastructure to concentrated poverty. A one-size-fits-all funding model risks missing the mark, but so does an approach that starves the system of the resources it needs to function.

What makes this stalemate so frustrating is that there is room for compromise. A balanced solution would provide a meaningful across-the-board per-pupil increase—ensuring every student benefits—while also targeting additional dollars to the districts facing the most severe challenges. This would recognize the diverse realities of Michigan schools, from the Upper Peninsula to Grand Rapids to Detroit.

But instead of negotiating toward that middle ground, Lansing is treating education like a political chess match. Each side digs in for partisan advantage, hoping to score points with their base, while superintendents across the state are left waiting for answers. Budgets can't be finalized, hiring decisions are delayed, and families have no clarity about the programs their children will have access to in the fall.

This uncertainty is more than an inconvenience, it's real harm. Students only get one shot at third grade, or ninth grade, or senior year. When a district can't hire enough teachers, when extracurriculars are cut, when mental health counselors aren't funded, those opportunities are gone forever. A child who falls behind this year may never fully catch up.

The stakes are even higher when you consider Michigan's long-term economic future. Employers consistently cite education and workforce readiness as top concerns. If Michigan wants to attract businesses, grow its economy, and keep young families here, it must provide a world-class education system. That won't happen if funding remains a political football.

It's worth remembering that Michigan was once a national leader in education. For decades, our schools were a point of pride, producing a highly skilled workforce that powered the state's economic engine. But in recent years, our performance has slipped compared to other states. Reversing that decline requires more than tinkering at the margins—it requires sustained investment, innovation, and a willingness to put children ahead of politics.

I guess you could say that about most states. Public education is not what it used to be. The United States, depending on who does the ranking, is any where from 12th to 30th in the world. That simply put is unacceptable.

So what's the solution? The current stalemate makes clear that Lansing has lost sight of the mission to make public education better. Lawmakers need to reset their priorities. Compromise isn't a sign of weakness—it's a recognition that education is too important to be held hostage to ideology. Michigan students don't get a do-over on their education. Neither should lawmakers get away with kicking the can down the road.

Every day this fight drags on is another day lost for our kids. The legislature and governor must come together, find common ground, and deliver the funding our schools need. And they must do it now. Heck their deadline was July 1. It's already September. I implore our lawmakers to compromise and fund our public schools, now!

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

For the most part, I don't give President Trump and his executive orders much attention. For one thing, these epistles are often challenged in court and sometimes overturned. The exception is when it touches on something important to me. Right now, that means his insistence that the Smithsonian must have its collections and public displays audited by his inspectors so they tell only the 'right' story. He intimated that perhaps all museums should be subjected to the same treatment so that only good things are presented to the public.

Good luck on that one, Mr. President, because you have no idea just how big a hornet's nest you have kicked. There is nothing more difficult than trying to corral a group of historians into agreeing to just one idea or agenda. You will be getting into the middle of something you might regret, because even a small herd of novice amateur historians can be more tenacious than a pack of terriers.

My sister is the genealogist in our family, and she has traced several branches of the family tree back to the Middle Ages. She is what can be described as a 'names and number' historian. Think of her in terms of Sergeant Friday from Dragnet: just the facts. When was [name] born, and where? When did he join the Virginia militia and fight under Washington's command? Who were his ancestors? Where did they live? Who begat whom? What happened to him and his family after the American Revolution?

She did the same thing with our father's side. Who, what, when, where, why, and how. Those were her questions, and that was, more or less, the extent her interest.

To be honest with you, those names and dates are important, but it isn't long before I start looking for the exit. That is because I am far more of a 'story or narrative' historian. I'll take my sister's facts and figures, then weave in a story that, with luck, will not be a cure for insomnia.

It is the sort of method that our finest historians have used - writers such as Bruce Catton, James Michener, and David McCullough - in their best-selling books. The basic information is correct, but the narrative is what keeps it alive.

When Winston Churchill was booted out of office in 1945, and was kicking around for a paying job, he decided to write a multi-volume set of books on the history of World War Two. He wrote about 3000 words a day, thanks to the help of secretaries and clerk-typists. Once a section was completed, he would send a copy of the first (i.e. rough) draft to a former member of his War Cabinet to check for content. Once, when Lord Beaverbrook fussed that the story was not accurate, Churchill fired back, "I made the history! I will write the history - my way!"

Mr. Trump, that is only the beginning of the mess into which you are stepping. There is more.

As any law enforcement officer will tell you, when there are witnesses to an accident or other event, every witness will see or hear things just a bit differently. It is not that they are intentionally trying to deceive anyone; just that they see things from different angles and distances and are pre-disposed to notice certain things and ignore others.

To make matters more confusing, almost immediately memories begin to shift and alter, and with each retelling of the event, a new version of the memory becomes imprinted on our brain. Then, if we hear of the event from another person, we might add their interpretation to our memory.

A quick example: My sister and I were planning our Christmas holiday, and she said the last time I had been at her home for the big day I arrived on Christmas Eve. I told her that was impossible because I officiated at the service at Good Shepherd, drove home, and took a 6 AM flight on Christmas morning. We discussed this for a while, and she finally said, "Oh," to avoid a debate. It's a good thing, too, because she was wrong and I was right.

The principle applies to almost everything in our life. Then, if the story is committed to paper, the debates continue.

This is what makes one of the final scenes in The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance so important. Jimmy Stewart was telling a reporter of his life's history, and how the turning point came when everyone thought he had shot the town's bully in a fair fight. The story was not accurate, but it became settled in everyone's mind.

The reporter closed his notebook, put away his pen, and said quietly, "When the story is better than the truth, print the story."

This is one reason why I don't go to art museums merely to see pretty pictures, nor history museums to be spoon fed someone's narrative I do not read books that are nice little stories. Rather, we go to museums and galleries, read books and listen to music, to be challenged and to learn something new.

This happened a few years ago Pat and I went to an exhibit of the deconstructionist art by the Spanish artist Jean Miro. I never cared for his work, nor abstract art, and it is still not a favorite. But going to the museum and seeing what the Bavarian corporal would later call 'decadent art,' I realized it was so well done because it explained the background and the rationale behind his work. I finished seeing the exhibit before Pat and had time to sit and reflect on his philosophy of art.

Simply because I do not like it, or someone else does not understand it, does not make it wrong or ugly. Simply because my interpretation of a historical event or person is different from another's does not matter. We continue our quest for knowledge and understanding.

It appears to me that only a craven coward is afraid of history. The worst of the ancient Egyptian pharaohs demonstrated this when they attempted to complete excise from history the existence of some of their predecessors. They had their workmen chisel away the images and destroyed their coffins. More recently, when the Taliban took over Afghanistan they announced their intention to dynamite some large 2000+ year old statues of Buddha. They claimed that it was to get rid of wrong-minded religious beliefs. In reality, it was to send a message to their people: history began with us; there was nothing of value before we took control.

Life doesn't work that way.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Avoid The Ranked Choice Voting Gimmick

Dear Editor:

After the Michigan's November 2022 General Election, different campaigns petitioned for recounts of Proposals 2 and 3 in targeted precincts throughout the state, including four in Allegan County. Following the statewide recount request, the County Election Division performed postelection audits including a hand count of votes from five jurisdictions (some randomly chosen, some specifically requested by stakeholders who had questions about results). Between the recounts and the post-election audits, more than 14,000 ballots were hand counted and reviewed with the naked eye. Among the 14,000, there was a discrepancy of only one vote from the Election Night tabulation and the hand counts.

This achievement demonstrates the reliability of our election procedures. It is testament to our hardworking clerks and the diligence of our very thoughtful election inspectors. When I certify our election workers, I tell them that their job "is to make sure that every legally registered U.S. citizen who lives in that jurisdiction has the right to cast a ballot and that their vote counts no more and no less than anyone else who casts a ballot in Allegan County." A proposed amendment to the Michigan Constitution would change that promise. In fact, under the change, some people's votes would count more than others.

The scheme is called Ranked Choice Voting (RCV), and coupled with the Instant Runoff Voting movement, it proposes to produce candidates who have a broader base of support (50% +1) versus Michigan's current system that requires a plurality (or first past the post—like a horse race) to win.

RCV supporters claim that your life and mine are adversely affected when a candidate is elected with less than half of the vote. Those supporters are pushing a system that would allow voters to "rank" a ballot's candidates in the order of their preference and allow voting machines to narrow down those preferences to arrive at a candidate who has at least 50% +1 of the vote.

Even that so-called majority, however, is misleading. To have the "majority" of votes, tabulating achines will have eliminated the ballots of anyone whose candidate did not finish among the top vote getters and who did not want to list preferred candidates beyond their number one choice. This elimination of votes (supporters prefer to say your vote was "exhausted" – either way, your vote is not counted) is the Instant Runoff. Voting machines can perform multiple Instant Runoffs in one election to create a winner, so that winning 50% +1 is not a majority of those who originally participated in the election.

As the chief election official for over 122,000 residents in my county, I cannot support a system that discards some voters' ballots to create a winner.

In the 2024 federal election, Michigan voters cast 111,017 votes for candidates from the Libertarian Party, Green Party, Natural Law Party, the U.S. Taxpayers Party, two independents, and four write-in candidates. These voters are sending Republicans and Democrats a clear message. They knew what they were doing when they chose to mark an oval further down on the ballot. Their voices deserve to be heard.

A system like RCV that needs to eliminate the votes of our friends, neighbors, and family members to achieve the illusion of a majority vote is a lie to the electorate that will create more doubts about election results than people already have.

If ranked choice voting sounds difficult to understand, imagine an election worker trying to explain to a voter that he or she can rank multiple preferences beyond their number one choice, but that only one candidate will ultimately win. The potential for mistakes and misunderstandings is significant.

The most complex ballot Michigan voters currently deal with is the August primary ballot in even-numbered years on which voters can vote to nominate candidates from one political party for the general election ballot. If voters crossover and vote for candidates from both parties, they spoil their ballot and none of their votes count. In one Allegan County Absent Voter Counting Board in August 2024, election officials estimated that 40 percent of ballots were spoiled from voters crossing over. RCV would make voting even more challenging.

Complex ballots reduce voter participation. Finally, the more than 14,000 ballots hand counted in public view in Allegan County after the 2022 General Election revealed only one vote that was not properly counted. That recount allowed Michigan voters to exercise their right to see the ballots and markings in person and compare the hand count to the tabulator results. RCV would compromise that right to a paper ballot recount in your home county and would delay election results. Tabulators would eliminate many people's votes and produce the illusion of a majority winner.

Please educate your family, friends, and neighbors. Talk to your local clerks. Join me in opposing any voting system that eliminates the votes of our fellow Michiganders.

Sincerely,
Bob Genetski
Allegan County Clerk – Register of Deeds

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St.
Allegan, MI 49010-0189 (269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Allegan County News. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in county; $55 per year in Michigan; $70 out of state; Foreign rates upon request. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010. Postal Publication No. 013-700. Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Allegan County News, P.O. Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010-0189.

the UE Otsego & Plainwell UNION ENTERPRISE

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan, MI 49010-0189
(269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Union Enterprise. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in Allegan County. $55 in Michigan; $70 out of state. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010 and at additional mailing office Postal Publication No. 413600. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Union Enterprise, P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan MI 49010

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES
4 P.M. Monday

The Allegan County News and Union Enterprise will in no case be responsible for typographical or other errors, but will reprint that part of an advertisement in which a typographical error occurs. The publisher reserves the right to reject or cancel any material at any time. The right is reserved to reject, omit or edit any material offered for publication.

Obituaries

Beverly Huff, 93

Beverly Huff passed peacefully on August 26, 2025, surrounded by her family. She was born on March 23, 1932, in Marion, Ohio to the late Edna (McNeal) Van Allen and Lloyd Ernest Burke. Beverly was raised and adopted by Lyle and Lita (MacMartin) McNeal.

Bev spent some of her early years at the McNeal farm near Covert, MI. She graduated from high school in 1950 as valedictorian of her class at Cedar Lake Academy in Cedar Lake, Mi. Bev went on to attend Emanuel Missionary College where she met the love of her life, Donald Huff. They married in 1951. Later, she earned her associate's degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College in 1984.

For several years Bev was a stay-at-home mom, but rejoined the work force around 1970, working for Armintrout's, The Flashes and Allegan General Hospital. In 1974 she went to work at the Department of Social Services near

Beverly Huff

Dumont Lake. She was a supervisor for the last 10 years before retiring in 1992. After retirement, she and Don traveled extensively, both in the US and abroad. They also frequently attended Operas in Chicago and later jazz festivals in different states.

Bev loved her home and family, especially the holidays. At Christmas we might have Yule Log, Grasshopper pie or German black forest cake. Her eggnog was "To die for" and there was rarely a drop left in the punch bowl.

Bev's talents included playing the violin, piano, and organ. She learned knitting a little later in life and many blankets went to her grandkids. If you stopped to see her, she would usually have a book in hand and was still reading and discussing politics up until recently.

Preceding Bev in death were her husband Don of 73 years; her parents; her siblings: Murlen Van Allen, Albert Van Allen, Charlene (Van Allen) Robertson, John Taylor "Jack" Burke, Jean (Burke) Bloodworth, Darlene (Burke) ward, and Kenneth Burke.

Surviving Bev, are her children; Devryn (Ray) Farnum, Brenda Huff, Erica Huff (Mike Bergholtz) and Kevin (Susan) Huff; Grandchildren: Ravyn Schneider (Scott Wagar), Dyrena (Dennis) Warner, Lydia Huff, and Sander Huff (Cassidy Strormzand); Great grandchildren: Davynn, Drake, Rianon, Cadyn, Arionna, Dennis, Rayden and Dayne. Great great grandchild: Aliah. She also left many nieces and nephews to remember and apricate her. Also surviving are her two sisters, Vesta (Van Allen) McCart and Zelda (Van Allen) Christen.

A visitation with family and friends will be held on September 9, 2025, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm with the memorial starting at 12:00pm, at Gorden Funeral Residence in Allegan, Mi.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Wings of Hope Hospice 530 Linn St. Allegan, Mi. 49010.

Joyce Thompson, 93

Joyce Thompson, 93 years old, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family at Allegan Medical Care Community on Aug 23, 2025.

She had a strong faith and was waiting to go home to meet her Lord

Joyce was born August 4, 1932 to Elizabeth and Samuel Brooks in Burnips, MI

In 1949 she married David Thompson Sr. and had 4 sons.

She was a homemaker and also worked in the family logging business with her husband and sons. Driving the old Massie Ferguson to help them out and fighting the cold winter months.

She enjoyed the outdoors and nature which lead her to work for Balgoyen orchards for several years at trimming grapes and other tasks. She loved seeing all the wild animals outside her windows. Always taking care of the farm animals while the guys were at work so they didn't need to do it when they got home.

She was a very busy lady raising 4 boys along with all of the neighborhood children that would stop in. You never knew who was coming for dinner or staying over for the night and some would stay for several days. She loved every minute of it.

She lived on a lake and

Joyce Thompson

to the very end was still talking about all of the cookouts we had there along with running a small campground. She enjoyed those days most with all of her family especially the little ones growing up fishing, boating, swimming.

Surviving her are sons Dale (Judy) Thompson and Dan (Marcia) Thompson, Daughter-in-law JeanThompson, sisters, Shirley Engle & Virginia (Bill) Lane, Grandchildren, Ryan (Betty), Ike (Carlye), Sy (Ashley), Amy (Noel), Steven, Jenny. Great Grandchildren Mckenzie, Ava, Dakota, Ethen, Zack, Tyler, Lillie and Great Great Grandaughter Ella, several Nieces and Nephews and great Nieces & Nephews, Sister in-law & brother in-law Don & Linda Gleason

Along with her parents Joyce was preceded in death by her husband David, 2 Son's David Jr. (Butch), and Don, Granddaughter Kimberly, brothers Sam (Duane), August (Lyle), Brother In-law Bob Engle, Sister In-law Shirley Jean Brooks & Myrtle Brooks

Per her wishes, cremation has taken place and she did not wish to have any services.

LIVING WITH GRIEF

BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by GordenFuneral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice as you the reader move forward through your personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

I will be honest with you. There really are no shortage's of support groups in Allegan County. But, are they being attended? (Lets examine the reasons why, and what I have learned that works for those who lead as well those who attend.)

In the past what I have experienced is those who attend a support meeting are looking for just that. Support.... Support to remain in a state of loss, rather than regaining purpose, traction to a solution to the negative entrapment of trauma. Attendance can be affected by whether or not the support group offers tools of help, or just band-aiding and managing trauma. Tried and tested tools to help one move forward typically are not put into a curriculum by one who is foreign to the elemental forces of trauma. Rather front liners, individuals who have rushed the beachhead and stormed through regaining control over their hearts and minds. An individual who attended one of my meetings shared that they had lost a child, and attended counseling sessions, psychiatric support, and was told a lot of things, but never given the tools to move forward. Support meetings should aid one to where they can in fact develop a "Self Care Plan", to put into action. And reassess it as needed. Grief is not a five stage process as we have been told, honestly it looks more like a tornado. Scattered, up and down. Rising, falling, all over the place.... There is no formula to it. Grief is not organized, its chaotic. What truly helps in a support group is when the Leader grabs your hand and walks with you, and both move forward as you continue, LIVING WITH GRIEF.

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Allegan County Fair has arrived

By Gari Voss

The 173rd Allegan County Fair has arrived. Though the presale specials for Grandstand tickets have passed, there are still opportunities to purchase tickets for Grandstand shows, Midway Rides, and more. Go to www.allegancountyfair.com, stop at the fair Office at 150 Allegan County Fair St., or call 269 673-6501.

Executive Director Saree Miller reminds fairgoers to not miss the PORK CHOP REVUE, "This is one of the most inventive and swine-able shows for the last 50 plus years! An awesome display of some of the smartest swine in the country. These bodacious barnyard buddies present a show featuring amazing stunts and laughable antics. You will laugh as you watch these bundles of bacon jump hurdles, waltz and even sing! See these great family shows with strong family tradition in the community area."

In addition to grandstand attractions, carnival rides, animals, animals, and more animals, plus Fair Food, the fairground has taken on a new look in several areas with new roadways, new stage curtains, new lights in the racing barns, and a new PA System. In addition, there is a lot of new equipment.

Be sure to wander the Home Economics & Arts building and the large and small decorated booths around the produce in the Agriculture Building, plus visit the many booths in the Industrial Buildings.

Special Grandstand Concerts
Fri., Sept. 5th – 7:30pm: Gabriel "Fluffy" Iglesias & Jeff Dunham
Sat., Sept. 6th – 7pm: Cole Swindell & Conner Smith
Thurs., Sept. 11th – 7:30p,: Gabby Barrett & Myron Elkins

Additional Grandstand Events on Themed Days
Sun., Sept. 7th – 6pm: Unique Motor Sports Off Road Derby
Mon., Sept. 8th – Carload/Children's Day
Noon: Harness Horse Racing
6pm: Parade goes through town
7pm: Parade at Free Grandstand
Tues., Sept. 9th – Sr. Citizen's Day
Noon: Harness Horse Racing
7pm: NTPA Tractor Pulls
Wed., Sept. 10th – Ladies Day 8am program
7pm: Flying Star Rodeo
Thurs., Sept. 11th – Veteran's Day (free with confirmation)
Fri., Sept. 12th – Taste of the Fair
7pm: SJO Motocross
Sat., Sept. 13th – 6pm: Unique Motor Sports State Championship Demo Derby

Allegan County Show Your Talent
Contestants registered in mid-August. Enjoy the talents of Allegan County entertainers in the Community Area Building (previously the Youth Building). 1st Place = $500; 2nd Place = $250; 3rd Place = $100. For additional information, contact Colleen at (616) 218-8170.
First Round: Sat., Sept. 6th, 2pm
Sun, Sept. 7th, 2pm
Semi-Finals: Thurs., Sept. 11, 6pm
Finals: Fri., Sept. 12, 6pm

Carnival Rides by Skerbeck Entertainment Group
There will be several new rides. Thrill seekers will delight in the Overdrive that spins on an elevated platform. Then there are the classics like the Scrambler with new construction. The children's area will add a classic power boat plus airplanes and helicopters. Be sure to get a wristband, or rides are $3
Mega Ride (all 9 days) = $110
Daily Ride Mon-Thurs = $30
Fri. - Sun = $35 Fri., - Sun. = $30 if purchased by Noon Sept. 5th
All are encouraged to experience why the Allegan County Fair is considered "Michigan's Most Popular County Fair"!

City of Otsego offers various services for its residents

By Aaron Mitchell
Otsego City Manager

As you probably already know, much of the operations of a local government is based on customer service.

When you look at a city's budget, you will notice a majority of the costs are dedicated to manpower. No matter what the problem is, it will likely come down to a city employee solving it in some fashion.

This was on full display during the pandemic, when our essential employees and department heads worked in the office everyday (with the appropriate distancing from each other of course).

No more talk of the pandemic; that was not fun for any of us.

But it should be understood that local government is based on customer service. And we take it pretty seriously here in Otsego.

In order to work for the City of Otsego, you must understand the level of excellence of public service that we provide our residents. And the expectation to go above and beyond what other municipalities traditionally offer.

The Otsego standard is not only being responsive to residents' expected requests, but also going the extra mile to provide some additional services that you may not find anywhere else. We want to demonstrate why we are "The Greatest Small Towns in Michigan!"

When you think of City of Otsego employees, I want you to think of quality public service and have a smile on your face from a memory of a positive interaction you previously had with a City employee when they went above and beyond your expectations.

I have heard multiple anecdotes from many of you already, which obviously makes me happy and confident that we are on the right track.

There are some services that you may not be aware that we offer our residents. Many of these services are intended to help residents when they are rather vulnerable. We want to earn your trust in hopes that you would be comfortable reaching out to us and allowing us to help in your hour of need.

Some of those extra services include:

* House Checks—If you are going on vacation or just plan on leaving your property for a couple of days and would like for the Otsego Police Department to keep an eye on it, we can do that. We will put your property on a list for all patrolling officers to keep an eye out for suspicious activity until you return.

* Smoke Alarm Checks: If you have questions about your smoke alarm and are wanting confirmation that your smoke alarms are working properly, call the Otsego Fire Department.

* Utility Questions: Some residents are often concerned about their water usage or quality. We will do our best to assist wherever possible.

If you are unaware of where your water and/or sewer line is located, we can help you out. If you are having an interruption of service, a water or sewer department employee could also attempt to explain what repairs would be needed and a ballpark cost estimate.

We recently heard of a story of a property owner being taken advantage of by being overcharged. We don't want that to happen. We cannot do the work on private property, but we will help you as much as we can to make sure you are not being taken advantage of.

* Transfer Station: Almost everyone is aware of the traditional transfer station services. However, I think many would be surprised to know that the yard waste lot is accessible 24/7 to drop of any brush or lawn clippings that you may have.

* Lost Dog: If your dog gets out and your family is getting anxious about finding them, call the Otsego Police Department. OPD will not be solely searching for "Fido," but they will be able to keep an eye out for them and return them if they find them while on patrol.

* Property Pin Location: While we cannot offer any specific survey interpretation or advice. We can assist in the location of the buried property pins that border our City ROW with a metal detector. This can be helpful to better understand property boundaries for a fence or building permit.

* Block Parties: No keggers, sorry. But a potluck is allowed.

If your neighborhood would like to close off a portion of the street to enjoy each other's company for an afternoon, we can make that happen. We have a couple of annual block parties that we close the street for.

If that is something that interests you, stop by City Hall and get more information.

* Availability: If needed, our department heads and myself are available to respond to any questions or concerns that you may have. Whether that is stopping by, emailing or even scheduling a meeting if the problem needs it.

At the end of the day, community leaders must be accessible and we will make any reasonable accommodations to be available for our residents. Our doors are always open.

We feel like the City of Otsego is different than other small towns. We want to be "the" standard for excellent public service.

If there is a service that we are missing and that you feel like we could provide the community, please bring it to our attention. Thank you.

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Plainwell council acts on several items

By John Raffel
Correspondent

The Plainwell City Council, at its most recent meeting, was to consider Ordinance 402 which would add a new Article III entitled "Board of Review."

The Council was told Article III will supplement the requirements and authority for the Board of Review specified in the City Charter by allowing for up to two alternate Board of Review members.

The council also discussed the annual salt purchase.

The City of Plainwell orders seasonal salt through MiDEAL using the State of Michigan's approved vendor. This year's contract was awarded to Detroit Salt Company. There will be an early and a regular salt delivery. The council was to consider approving the purchase of seasonal salt from Detroit Salt Company for a total cost of $13,011.

The council was also to consider the encumbrance rollover. This is an annual housekeeping item to move purchases approved and budgeted for in the 2024/2025 fiscal year into the 2025/2026 budget because the purchases were completed after July 1, 2025. There is no impact to the budget. The council was to consider approving the budget amendment as presented.

The board also discussed the water tower renovation project.

It was noted the City water tower is about 25 years old and in need of maintenance and repair. Dixon Engineering performs water tower inspections for the City, and recommends necessary repair and upgrades. In January 2025, Council approved a professional service agreement (PSA) with Dixon Engineering, Inc. which covered writing the specs for bidding, and assisting with the contract and preconstruction meetings. In the Phase 4 and 5 PSA, Dixon Engineering, Inc. will assist with the construction and post construction for this project.

The council was to consider approving a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Dixon Engineering, Inc. for Phase 4 (Construction) and Phase 5 (Post Construction) of the water tower renovation project for $23,100.

CITY OF PLAINWELL
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 402

At a regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Plainwell held at City Hall on August 25, 2025 and commencing at 7:00p.m., the following Ordinance was offered for adoption by Council Member Keeney and was seconded by Council Member Wisnaski:

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 56: TO ADD A NEW ARTICLE III ENTITLED "BOARD OF REVIEW" OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE CITY OF PLAINWELL.

THE CITY OF PLAINWELL (the "City") ORDAINS:

Section 1. ENACTMENT OF NEW ARTICLE THREE TO CHAPTER 56. A new Chapter 56, Article III, Section 56-25 through 56-35 entitled "Board of Review" of the Code of Ordinances for the City of Plainwell is hereby enacted and reads in its entirety as follows:

[*note to codifier, Section 56-25 through 56-29 should be listed as "reserved"*]

Article III: Board of Review

Sec. 56-30 Board of Review

A. This Section shall supplement the requirements and authority for the Board of Review specified in the City Charter.

B. The City Council may appoint not more than 2 alternate members of the Board of Review for the same term as regular members of the Board of Review. An alternate member may be called to perform the duties of a regular member of the Board of Review in the absence of a regular member. An alternate member may also be called to perform the duties of a regular member of the Board of Review for the purpose of reaching a decision on matters for which a regular member has abstained for reasons of conflict of interest.

C. The City Council may adopt rules, regulations and by-laws for the Board of Review that are consistent with both this Section, the City Charter, and state law.

[*note to codified, Sections 56-31 through 56-40 should be listed as "reserved"*]

Section 2. Repealer. Any other ordinances or portions of any other ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.

Section 3. Savings Clause. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable. If any part of this Ordinance is declared void or inoperable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such declaration does not void any or render inoperable any other part or portion of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date. Provides that the Ordinance is effective immediately following its publication in the manner permitted by law.

ROLL CALL VOTE: YES: Steele, Keeney, Wisnaski, Green and Keeler
NO: None

Adopted on: August 25, 2025
Published on: September 04, 2025
Effective on: September 12, 2025

Bradley Keeler, Mayor
JoAnn Leonard, City Clerk

B SECTION

The Allegan County News & Union Enterprise

SPORTS

First Place 2012 NNA Better Newspaper Contest — Award-winning Newspaper — Best Sports Column

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2025

Filkins leads Trojans to win over visiting Allegan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—Plainwell quarterback Luke Filkins made his presence felt in the Trojans' season opener against visiting Allegan on Friday, Aug. 29.

Filkins threw for two touchdowns and ran for another to lead Plainwell to the 21-7 victory.

In the process, the Trojans matched their win total from each of the past two seasons.

"It is nice to start the season with a win," Plainwell coach Brian Huberty said. "I'm really proud of our players and coaches. I thought we played pretty physical. Of course we have some things to clean up, but this was a good start."

The game was the first played on the newly renovated Streidl Field, which underwent quite the face lift during the summer.

"Our athletes, students and families had a great experience," Huberty said. "With the new facilities being introduced that night to the community, it doesn't get much better than that."

And it doesn't get much better than Filkins' performance for Plainwell.

Filkins finished 5-of-8 passing for 58 yards to go with game-topping 137 rushing yards on 21 carries.

The first of Filkins' three TDs came in the opening minute of the second quarter, when he scampered four yards to the end zone. The successful extra-point kick from Gibson Youngs game Plainwell the 7-0 lead.

And with 21 seconds remaining in the opening half, Filkins connected with Drew Rayman on an 18-yard scoring strike that, coupled with the PAT from Youngs, pushed the Trojans' lead to 14-0.

Plainwell padded its lead with three minutes left in the third quarters as Filkins hooked up with Chib Amaezechi on a 6-yard scoring pass. Youngs hit the extra-point kick, making it 21-0.

Allegan avoided the shutout when Brandon Thrash scored on a 2-yard run early in the fourth quarter. Myles Jackson connected on the extra-point kick.

Aidan Beck led Plainwell with 7.5 tackles, while Davis Town had 5.5.

"Our defense didn't give up any big plays, which was huge for us," Huberty said. "Our guys really made Allegan earn every yard."

Allegan lineman Sully Garvin, who has committed to Notre Dame, also made Plainwell earn its yards.

"I thought the Garvin kid might be the best lineman in the area this year," Huberty said. "We had to really scheme how to not let him dominate the line of scrimmage and he still did."

Thrash paced Allegan with 120 yards rushing. TJ Jameson led the Allegan defense with nine tackles, followed by Bradyn Kosiorowski with 8.5 and Hauk Hendrickson with 5.5.

"This was a great high school football game," Allegan coach Tony Danzig said. "We were physical, executed on both offense and defense and special teams.

Plainwell quarterback Luke Filkins carries the ball as two Allegan defenders give chase. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

"We have areas to improve on, but overall played assignment football. Hats off to Plainwell for getting the win."

Plainwell hopes to go 2-0 when it travels to Galesburg-Augusta on Friday, Sept. 5.

"Our kids have worked really hard to get to this point," Huberty said. "For us, this is the first step in the right direction to achieve our goals for the year. To start out this way is what we need to do.

"We now need to focus on Week 2 against Galesburg Augusta."

Buell-led Clippers cruise past Bridgman in opener

Martin quarterback Haylen Buell (1) fights for some additional yardage during the season-opening win over Bridgman. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MARTIN—After tormenting opposing defenses as a running back the past three years, Martin's Haylen Buell has moved under center for his senior season.

And if his first game as the starting quarterback is any indication, defensive coordinators from the Clippers' upcoming opponents have their work cut out for them.

Buell torched Bridgman for more than 300 yards of total offense and six total touchdowns in leading Martin to the 58-20 season-opening win in front of the home crowd on Thursday, Aug. 28.

Martin coach Brad Blauvelt was understandably impressed by what he saw from Buell.

"Haylen's first start at QB was a good one," said Blauvelt, who is hoping to lead the Clippers to a state championship for the third time in four years. "He looked really comfortable out there and did a great job of leading our offense."

Buell ran the ball 21 times, racking up 248 yards an average of 11.8 yards per carry. Five of those carries resulted in touchdowns.

"Five rushing TDs is pretty solid," Blauvelt said.

Midway through the second quarter, Buell also found Bryer Watson for an 80-yard touchdown pass that pushed Martin's lead to 38-14 at halftime.

But if you think Buell's only contributions came on the offensive side of the ball, you'd be wrong.

Buell also amassed 11 tackles—second on the team to Issac Suk's 12—from his safety position.

"Haylen dominated both sides of the ball," Blauvelt said.

Zaidan Buell added six tackles, while Anderson Keeler and Peyton Schuring-Harris each had five tackles. Keeler also blocked a punt, while Schuring-Harris added a sack and forced a fumble.

Offensively, Seth Toris chipped in with 55 yards and a touchdown on eight carries.

"I'm very happy with the performance tonight," Blauvelt said. "It's great to get the win.

"However, there is a lot of room for improvement. We also know Marcellus will be a big test for us (in Week 2), so we must get back to work and start preparing for them."

Marcellus was a 48-20 winner at home over Morenci to open its season. Martin hosts Marcellus on Friday, Sept. 5, at 7 p.m. for homecoming.

Dunn sees positives in Trailblazers' loss to Buchanan

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

An early deficit proved to be too much for the Saugatuck football team to overcome in its season opener against visiting Buchanan on Thursday, Aug. 28.

The Trailblazers fell behind 18-0 after one quarter and were down 24-0 at halftime en route to the 36-14 loss.

But the final score didn't tell the whole story, according to longtime Saugatuck coach Bill Dunn.

Yes, the Trailblazers lost. But Dunn also saw his players making in-game adjustments and improve as the contest progressed.

And that, he said, was a great sign for his young team.

"The kids fought hard for four quarters against a good football team," Dunn said. "After getting down early, we continued to play hard, and the defense limited Buchanan's offense in the second half and the offense put together two good offensive drives for TDs in the second half."

The Trailblazers also lost to Buchanan to open the season a year ago, falling by a score of 32-6. Saugatuck then reeled off five straight wins before finishing the regular season at 6-3 to clinch a playoff berth.

"Our young guys got a taste of the pace of a varsity football game and got better throughout the game," Dunn said. "That will be big for us moving forward."

Senior Max Page led the offensive attack for Saugatuck, rushing for a team-best 91 yards on 18 carries. He also accounted for one of the Trailblazers' two fourth-quarter touchdowns.

Junior Walt Bos, making his first career varsity start at quarterback, was responsible for the other TD, this one also on the ground. He ran for a total of 36 yards on 12 carries.

Bos also completed one of his two pass attempts, finding Will Soule for a 1-yard gain.

Soule added 35 rushing yards on 11 carries, while Mason Leslie had 24 yards on four carries and Jack Drummond had 11 yards on his lone carry.

Dante Holley made good on both his extra-point kicks to get into the scoring act.

Defensively, Soule led the way with eight tackles. One of those went for a loss.

Leslie and Nolan Lalonde were next with seven tackles each, while Drummond recovered a fumble.

"We will build on the positives and work on the things that we need to get better at as we prepare for our upcoming game next week against Lakeview," Dunn said.

Saugatuck hosts Lakeview at Jarvis Memorial Stadium on Friday, Sept. 5. Kickoff is slated for 7 p.m.

Lakeview comes into the game at 0-1, having dropped a 35-0 decision to Mason County Central at home.

Jack Drummond fights for some yardage in Saugatuck's season-opening contest with visiting Buchanan. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

Saugatuck soccer wins a pair

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—Dante Holley continued his strong start to the season for the Saugatuck boys soccer team when the Trailblazers hosted Schoolcraft on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Holley scored three goals and assisted on another to lead Saugatuck to the 5-0 victory.

With the win, the Trailblazers improved to 5-2. All five of those wins have been shutouts, including a 3-0 decision over visiting Zion Christian on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

In the Schoolcraft game, Henry Gannon and Chase Seeley each added one goal. Justin Crawford and Grady Palmer chipped in with one assist apiece.

Holley also had multiple goals against Zion Christian, as he found the back of the net twice.

Charlie Robison accounted for the other Saugatuck goal to go with an assist.

Clark Hamlin and Tommy Bullinger finished with an assist each.

Boys Soccer Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

ALLEGAN

Andy Bishop is entering his first season as a varsity head coach.

That, however, doesn't mean he's new to coaching.

Rather, Bishop brings coaching experience from AYSO, ASA and middle school with him as he takes over the reins of the Allegan program.

"Development has been an area I feel I am good at," Bishop said. "Now I must adjust to a little different role, and I'm excited for the opportunity to be the head coach at Allegan."

Bishop inherits a team that returns 10 players—seven of them seniors—from last year's squad.

Those returning seniors are forwards Dohnovan Allen and Liam Antoine, defenders Noah Greig and Draven Terpstra, goalie/defenders Nolan Richmond and Ryan Sparks and goalie/midfielder Treyden Terpstra.

Junior midfielders Sawyer Wedge, Colby Bishop and LJ Dial also return.

"I am looking for a lot of leadership and more from players like Noah, Nolan, Sawyer, Colby and Donnie," Andy Bishop said. "But to be honest, just saying those five players is crazy. I am looking forward to all my players doing the same.

"If they all can work together and be confident in themselves and their teammates, it should be a great season."

Newcomers such as senior defender Mateo Perez, junior midfielder Leland McKellips and sophomore midfielder Jacob Clearwater also hope to make an impact.

"We have some unity on this team as many of these players have played together for many years," Andy Bishop said. "We just need to prepare and be ready every game."

Andy Bishop believes his team could be a top contender for top honors in the division.

FENNVILLE

The 2024 season was a special one for Fennville coach Kyle Nevenzel and his players.

What made it so special? Well, for the first time in school history, the Blackhawks hoisted a district championship trophy.

And with several key members of that squad back this season, Nevenzel is hoping for another successful campaign.

"We are excited about the season and looking forward to the continual development of this group as we compete day in and day out," said Nevenzel, who led Fennville to a 17-5 record a year ago. "We have a good mix of solid returners and some impressive newcomers."

Those returning players include nine seniors and five juniors.

Seniors who are back include forward Ethan Coffindaffer, defender Jorge Espino, defender Alex Salinas, defender Jesus Salinas, midfielder Jose Salinas, forward Jose Fernandez, midfielder Angel Villalobos, keeper Dereck Arrendondo and forward Cruz Medrano.

Returning juniors are forward Salvador Carranza, defender Jared Delgado, defender Alejandro Solis, midfielder Alexis Gallegos and midfielder Gabe Gonzalez.

"We should be strong defensively this season as we have most of our starting back line returning," Nevenzel said. "We also return a good portion of our scoring from last year, which should give us confidence in the attacking third."

A group of five junior newcomers—forward Josue Bahena, midfielder Oswaldo Lopez, midfielder Juan Coronado, defender Emanuel Medrano and defender Josue Mercado—round out the roster.

"We lost both of our center midfielders to graduation last year, so we are excited to see who will step up in that role for us and be that key transition piece into the attack," Nevenzel said.

"We hope to be very competitive in league play again this season and look to build off of the nice run we had in the post season last year."

OTSEGO

To say graduation took a toll on the Otsego roster would kind of be like saying Jeff Bazos has some money.

Sure, both statements are factually accurate. And both are also gigantic understatements.

The Bulldogs lost pretty much the entire team to graduation, as last year's team included 18 seniors, nine of whom were starters for coach Trey Moore.

"It's a brand new team this year," said Moore, who led the Bulldogs to a 7-7-3 record last year and has a career record of 22-46-7 with Otsego. "We have a lot of holes to fill."

Fortunately for Moore, he has some young re-enforcements on the way in the form of a large freshmen class.

"With this bright, young freshmen class, we are already improving each and every game," he said.

One player who is back for Otsego is senior Tyler Wolf, who garnered Second Team All-Conference honors during his junior season.

Newcomers who could make in impact are senior Carter Shattuck and freshman Grant DeLeeuw, who are vying for time at goalkeeper.

"One area of strength is that we are a true team," Moore said. "Everyone fights together and we understand that we lose together as well. I made it very clear that when we make a mistake, we fix it right away regardless of who made it.

"My biggest concern is something we have already seen in a couple of games, and that is fitness level. Being such a young team, we are not able to hang in the final minutes of games as well as we should."

Despite the youthful makeup of his team, Moore believes the Bulldogs could be involved in the battle for the top spots in the Wolverine Conference.

"The Wolverine is anyone's to win," he said. "In year's past, it has been Plainwell, Sturgis and Edwardsburg fighting for the title. They are all still strong contenders, but there could be an upset this year."

Three of Moore's players from last year are playing collegiately this season, with Cadence Taylor at Albion College and Gabe James and Jack Thrall at Lake Michigan College.

Moore hopes players on this year's roster can look to that trio for inspiration in terms of what is possible.

"We are a young team that is improving every day," Moore said. "We will give it our all every game and will not back down from a fight. I am looking forward to what these gentlemen do by the end of the season."

PLAINWELL

After winning the Wolverine Conference championship last season, third-year Plainwell coach Ryan Beauregard knows his team will have a target on its back this season.

"We know our conference will be very competitive this season with several strong teams in the mix," he said. "Our focus is simply on continuing to improve each game and building on the positive steps we have taken over the past two years."

The return of nine letter winners who bring previous varsity experience should help the Trojans continue to move in a positive direction as a program.

Seniors Teagen Wilson (defender), Kegan Braybrooks (forward), Gavyn Steele (defender), Nate Launt (midfielder), Nolan Lindsey (defender), Landon Jepsen (defender) and Davis Nooney (defender) lead the charge of returning players.

Junior midfielder Logan Swartz and sophomore midfielder Sully Pelc are also back.

Newcomers include four first-year seniors: midfielders Trenton Gunnels and Thierno Diallo, defender Phil Mathis and forward Salim Sumaila.

Juniors new to the varsity level include keepers Alassane Ba and Carson Vos, midfielders Jon Schmidtke, Luciano Beltran and Niko Overhill and defender Josh Chapman. The sophomore duo of midfielder Mack Hoffman and forward Logan Gabala join freshman midfielder Braeden Asbeury in rounding out the roster.

"We're excited about the season ahead with a solid core of returning players and several talented newcomers joining the roster," Beauregard said. "That combination of experience and fresh energy gives us high expectations for what this group can accomplish.

"One of our biggest strengths is the balance we have across the field. Our returning players bring leadership and experience while our newcomers add depth, energy and versatility. We are confident in our team chemistry and ability to play with intensity on both ends of the field."

Staying healthy, said Beauregard, is always the key to a successful season.

"Staying healthy and continuing to grow together will be key, but we feel this group is well prepared to meet those challenges," he said. "The guys are focused on building off last year's success by defending our conference championship and making a strong push in the postseason."

Beyond wins and losses on the field, Beauregard is ecstatic with the growth the program has shown the past few years.

"One of my proudest achievements has been growing the program to more than 47 student-athletes this season," he said. "That growth reflects the strong culture our players have built, along with the guidance of our coaching staff and the incredible support from families and the school community.

"Just as important as our success on the field is our commitment to academics, character and representing Plainwell with pride."

SAUGATUCK

As a sophomore last season, Saugatuck midfielder Dante Holley recorded 38 goals to establish himself as one of the most dangerous offensive weapons in Allegan County.

For his efforts, Holley received Second Team All-State recognition along with All-District and All-Conference accolades.

Holley's dad Nate Holley—who also happens to be entering his first season as head coach for Saugatuck—believes the younger Holley still has plenty of room to grow and improve.

Dante Holley returns for Saugatuck after scoring 38 goals as a sophomore. (Photo by Scott Sullivan)

And the Trailblazers will need him, as graduation left them with a very young roster.

"We have a very young team, only two seniors on the team," Nate Holley said. "But we do have some talent, including Dante."

Dante Holley is one of eight players who are back after being part of last season's 12-5-2 squad.

The others include the senior duo of defender Frankie Bullinger and keeper Alex Cernugel along with junior midfielder Justin Crawford. The sophomore quartet of midfielder Tommy Bullinger, forward/keeper Henry Gannon and defenders Clark Hamlin and Nik Vinten-Johansen also return.

Gannon earned All-Conference accolades as a freshman.

"I think we have some good talent in the attack," Nate Holley said. "We plan on scoring a lot of goals. But our defense is young, so there will be a learning curve on that side of the field."

Speaking of learning curves, Nate Holley will be adjusting to coaching at the varsity level for the first time in his career. But he brings with him a successful tenure at the youth and middle school levels, as he led both the boys and girls team from Saugatuck Middle School to undefeated seasons.

"As for our goals for this year, we would like to progress further in districts along with continuing the current upward trajectory of the Saugatuck boys soccer program," Nate Holley said.

When it comes to the race of the divisional championship, all roads appear to go through Fennville.

"Fennville has been the top dog for a while in our conference," Nate Holley said. "Taking points from them would taste sweet."

NOTE: *No preview information was received from Hamilton, Hopkins or Wayland prior to deadline.*

Fourteen players are back from the Fennville squad that won the first district title in program history. (File photo)

Allegan tennis prevails

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

NILES—Taking on host Niles Brandywine on Wednesday, Aug. 27, the Allegan boys tennis team secured wins in three of the four doubles flights to propel the Tigers to the 5-3 victory.

No. 1 doubles Noah Kuebler/Ian Gaulke (6-1, 6-4), No. 2 doubles Wesley Goodspeed/Oliver Burnett (6-3, 6-4) and No. 4 doubles Sully Morgan/Noah Willett (6-3, 6-4) were all victorious.

In singles, No. 1 Silas Neldon (6-4, 4-6, 6-3) and No. 2 Ezra Smith (6-1, 6-3) picked up wins for Allegan.

"It was a good, hard-fought match," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said.

The Tigers entered the match ranked eighth in Division 4.

Allegan soccer falls short

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SOUTH HAVEN—A second-half header from Colby Bishop got the Allegan boys soccer team on the scoreboard in its SAC showdown with South Haven on Wednesday, Aug. 27, after the Tigers had been shut out in the first half.

But that goal wasn't quite enough to prevent the loss, as the Rams scored once in each half to hand Allegan the 2-1 loss.

"It was a very physical battle," Allegan coach Andy Bishop said. "We played much better in the second half, but South Haven was able to come out on top."

Ryan Sparks made 13 saves in the losing cause.

Football Results:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Fennville 60 Lawrence 6

Fennville quarterback Carter Thompson hurt visiting Lawrence with his legs and his arm in a season-opening game on Thursday, Aug. 28.

Thompson ran for three touchdowns and threw for two more as the Blackhawks cruised to the 60-6 triumph.

"It's a great day to be a Blackhawk," Fennville coach Wendell Hughes said. "This was a great start to the season. I'm very happy with our effort and execution.

"Carter Thompson had great command of the offense tonight. I'm very pleased with his progress."

Thompson started the game's scoring with a 35-yard pass to Ely Schut. That was the start of a 30-point opening quarter for Fennville.

By halftime, the Blackhawks led 52-0.

Thompson also found Schut for a 53-yard TD. Thompson's rushing touchdowns covered 10, 3 and 5 yards.

Ashton Halcomb led Fennville with 77 rushing yards and a TD on three carries, while Ethan Rosencrans and Zay Peoples added scoring runs.

Thompson finished 3-of-5 passing for 94 yards.

Defensively, Isreal Arredondo paced the Blackhawks with 5.5 tackles, followed by Ashton Senters with 4.5. Schut and Isiah Souders-Beltran each had an interception.

"I'm excited to see how we respond after winning a game we should win," Hughes said. "Now we must have a great week of practice full of focus and learning to prepare for NorthPointe (Christian)."

Hopkins 29 Fremont 12

A big first quarter set the tone for Hopkins in its season-opening contest against host Fremont on Thursday, Aug. 28.

The Vikings scored three touchdowns in the first quarter and never looked back in securing the 29-12 victory.

Justin VanWagner spearheaded the early offensive surge for Hopkins, as he accounted for the team's first two touchdowns. The first was from five yards out, while the second went for four yards.

Merek Zapolnik completed Hopkins' first-quarter scoring with a 7-yard run.

The Vikings added a third-quarter field goal from Vicente Garza that was good from 39 yards out and a 3-yard scoring run by Brayden Harnish in the fourth quarter.

VanWagner finished with 90 yards on 14 carries. Zapolnik (36 yards on 14 carries), Harnish (32 yards on nine carries), Blake Schwartz (31 yards on eight carries) and Garza (28 yards on six carries) also contributed to the ground attack.

Zapolnik also completed 3-of-5 passes for 44 yards, with Blake Hyma catching two passes for 38 yards and Schwartz hauling in one pass for six yards.

Braydon Smigiel had a team-best 5.5 tackles, Hyma recovered a fumble and Zeke Jankowiak had an interception.

Otsego 32 Pennfield 26

It had been five years since Otsego had won its season-opening game.

That changed on Thursday, Aug. 28, as the Bulldogs traveled to Battle Creek Pennfield and came away with the 32-26 win.

Not that it was easy.

Otsego—which scored one touchdown in each of the first three quarters—trailed 19-18 heading to the final quarter.

But the Bulldogs rallied to outscore Pennfield 14-7 during the final 12 minutes of play to claim the victory in comeback fashion.

"I thought this was good Week 1 win," second-year Otsego coach Damien Ross said. "We started fast. Now, we just have to sustain that throughout."

Lane Blanchard was a force on both sides of the ball for the Bulldogs, rushing for 54 yards and three touchdowns to go with 10 tackles on defense.

Kaleb Hildebrand threw for 179 yards and a pair of TDs, with Chris Weirick hauling in six catches for 140 yards and a touchdown. Zeke Andrina had the other touchdown reception—for 20 yards—to go with a 79-yard kickoff return.

"I'm really proud how we handled some adversity through the course of the game," Ross said. "I thought our D-line played really well and our O-line stepped up to make things happen when we needed short yardage."

Wayland 50 Waverly 27

A diversified running attack helped carry Wayland to a season-opening win over host Lansing Waverly on Thursday, Aug. 28.

Otsego's Chris Weirick(8) prepares to haul in one of his six receptions against Pennfield. (Photo by Gary Shook)

Five Wildcats finished with at least 55 rushing yards as Wayland won 50-27.

As a team, Wayland rushed for 447 yards.

"It was a good Week 1 win," Wayland coach Tim Gibson said. "I don't recall ever rushing for 447 total yards as a team, and the great thing about it was we were able to get production from all of our backs.

"Credit to our players up front including our slots who blocked very well."

Jake Reeder spearheading the running game, going for a game-best 154 yards on 10 carries. He had one touchdown.

Jacob Crater added 75 yards and two TDs on six carries, followed by Will Lodenstein (69 yards on 10 carries), Henry Haass (64 yards and one touchdown on six carries) and Caleb Ellis (55 yards on one TD on nine carries).

Wayland's other two TDs came on defense.

"I thought defensively we were able to generate some pressure in the second half," Gibson said. "Our two defensive scores were huge. We have a lot to clean up—too many penalties, two fumbles, not taking advantage of our own opportunities in the passing game and allowing a handful of big plays in the passing game need to be corrected.

"But there were a lot of positives in the win along with things we need to address this upcoming week."

Volleyball Results:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Hamilton 0 Catholic Central 2
Hamilton 2 Cedar Springs 0
Hamilton 2 NorthPointe C 0
Hamilton 2 Petoskey 0

A slow start gave way to a strong finish for Hamilton at the Cedar Springs Mini Invitational on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

After dropping a 2-0 decision to Catholic Central, the Hawkeyes bounced back to beat Cedar Springs (25-20, 25-16), NorthPointe Christian (25-20, 25-20) and Petoskey (25-15, 25-14).

"We had long night of competition," first-year Hamilton coach Courtney Cronkright said. "The girls played very well overall. We are continuing to work on our pace of play and the team is working very well together early on in this season."

Brooke Petroelje had 45 total assists for the evening. Kenzie Glupker led Hamilton in kills in three of the four matches, while Sophie Blauwkamp was among the team leaders in digs.

Allegan 0 Hackett 3

Hackett Catholic proved to be a little too strong for Allegan when the teams met on Wednesday, Aug. 27, as the Tigers fell 25-19, 25-12, 25-15.

"We played a hard-fought match," first-year Allegan coach Mandy Matthews said. "The girls showed their trademark scrappy defense, keeping rallies alive and pressuring with strong serving throughout the night.

"Although several long rallies and well-executed plays didn't swing in our favor, the team's effort and resilience stood out."

Matthews was particularly impressed with a block by Maria Perez on Hackett's top hitter.

Addy Fales finished with 19 assists for Allegan, while Camdyn Drozd had three kills and two aces.

Fennville 1 Schoolcraft 3

A strong performance from Lily Achterhof wasn't enough to prevent Fennville from suffering the 25-21, 25-14, 19-25, 25-22 loss to Schoolcraft on Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Achterhof finished with team highs of 14 kills and 12 digs in the loss. She also served up three aces, with tied MacKenzie McIlwain for second on the team behind Marynn Winne's six.

Winne added eight kills and nine digs, while McIlwain had 11 digs and 31 assists.

Martin 3 Tri-Unity 1

Serving played a big role in Martin claiming a 25-15, 25-16, 19-25, 25-15 win over Tri-Unity Christian on Tuesday, Aug. 26.

"Our serving was great, as we only missed a handful of serves the whole match as a team," first-year coach Shannon Goddard said.

Torryn Harris and Mackenzie Schwartz led the serving charge, with each having a perfect day in that department.

Harris also led the Clippers with 22 assists, while Schwartz had a team-best eight kills. Maggie and Anna Jager added six kills each.

Kendra Goddard paced Martin with 17 digs.

"We played really well the first two sets, then let off the gas a little too much in the third but finished it in the fourth," Shannon Goddard said. "It's so important for us to have a balanced attack. If someone is having an off day, we have lots of other options."

Saugatuck 0 Buchanan 2
Saugatuck 1 Cassopolis 2
Saugatuck 0 Centreville 2

Taking part in the Buchanan Quad on Wednesday, Aug. 27, the Saugatuck volleyball team engaged in a three-set battle with Cassopolis.

After dropping the first set 27-25, the Trailblazers regrouped to take the second set 26-24 and force a decisive third set.

But it was Cassopolis that ultimately prevailed, taking set three 25-20.

In its other matches, Saugatuck fell to Buchanan (25-9, 25-9) and Centreville (25-13, 25-19).

Natalia Laskowski paced the Trailblazers with 29 assists and eight kills, while Gabbie Cochran added 19 assists to go with a team-best six aces. Emma Gosler chipped in with six kills and four blocks.

Fennville 2 Marcellus 0
Fennville 0 Climax-Scotts 2
Fennville 2 Howardsville 0

On Monday, Aug. 25, Fennville traveled to Marcellus for a non-conference quad and came away with a 2-1 record.

The Blackhawks beat Marcellus (25-11, 25-13) and Howardsville Christian (25-17, 25-13) with a loss to Climax-Scotts (25-16, 25-10) sandwiched in between.

MacKenzie McIlwain played well for Fennville, leading the team with 20 assists and nine aces. She was second with 15 digs. Lily Achterhof had 16 digs, nine kills and three aces.

Ceeley Howard (seven aces, five digs and four kills) and Marynn Winne (eight digs, six aces and three kills) also contributed.

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Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

President Trump signed yet another Executive Order, this time instructing the Smithsonian Institute to carefully assess their collections and displays to make certain nothing is "woke," and in keeping with his vision of America's story. He has also suggested the other museums need to be examined to make sure they are presenting only 'true' American history.

This week's questions: Have you ever been to the Smithsonian, and do you think museum 'house cleaning is necessary?"

-Man at a farmer's market on M-89: "I think it's a good thing. There are too many of those elites trying making America look back. Trump is right, they hate America, and this is another swamp that needs draining."

-Couple, same location; Woman: "I think it's just another big smoke screen to keep people focused on something other than being a pedophile like buddy Epstein and setting up his concentration camps." Man: "I think she just about covered it for me."

-Man near the hardware store in Fennville: "I don't think a review is all that bad. Sometimes historians get it wrong, or we learn new things that change the old."

-Man, same location: "Smithsonian? Never been there, and it isn't going to happen. I watch their television channel, and it's pretty good, but you're not getting me to go to Washington. I think it's Trump just trying to stir things up again."

-Young couple outside the Jail House Museum in Allegan; Man: "You saying he's going to send his experts here to go through this museum? That's a laugh." Woman: "Good luck when they go through the buildings at the fair and try to figure out what some of that stuff is." Both laugh.

-Woman near the Allegan Public Library: "He's a real whack-o, don't you think? He's like a little boy - one minute he's playing with one toy, another it's something else, and it goes on and on. He doesn't have self-control. That's his problem. Well, now it's our problem."

-Man, same location: "Been there? Yea. Years ago. I remember going into one building that had the flag, the real flag that flew over Fort McHenry when Francis Scott Key wrote our national anthem. That really impressed me, I'll tell you. So did that big pendulum thing in the middle of the floor. I was just a kid, and I still remember it. Trump had better keep his hands off of it!"

Pretty Pink Tingz offers a boutique and more

By Gari Voss

Opening to a small crowd of family and close friends on August 4, 2025, and to the public on August 5th, Pretty Pink Tingz added a unique opportunity to Allegan's downtown shoppers. Owner Sky Fifelski wanted to create a one-stop shop where people could find fashion, accessories, high-end cosmetics, and custom artistry.

"My dream was to own a boutique and tattoo shop that was all inclusive, woman friendly, and welcoming," explained Fifelski. "I wanted it to be a one-stop shop where you could come in and walk out with everything. It had to be very pink and vibrant for mixed age groups."

Fifelski feels that the boutique attracts both younger and older generations. The top lines of cosmetics are important, plus customers can request permanent makeup of the eyebrows and lips which is basic cosmetic tattooing of fine line, traditional, and neo-traditional styles that Allegan did not have. Sugar Inksu will be the resident Piercer and Fellow Tattoo Artist.

"We have been seeing a mixture of a everyone coming in which has been fun," quipped Sky.

The Fifelski family - Sky, Ravyn, Tylar, and Jesse. Photo courtesy of Pretty Pink Tingz

"At Pretty Pink Tingz, our beauty services are all about enhancing your glow and bringing out your boldest self," stated Sky. "Whether you're getting photo-ready or just feeling yourself — we've got the glam for that. I wanted to add these services to locals and people who don't want to travel far. We do not have permanent make-up services close to Allegan, so now you don't have to travel far to get these services."

Though Sky comes from Grant Rapids, she has lived in Allegan for 8 years. Her husband Tylar is from Allegan. "You can get to know the people and shop owners," stated Sky. "I really have fallen in love with the small town atmosphere."

Information about the shop includes the word 'baddies'. Fifelski explains this to be a play on words for the newer generation to mean a really cute girl. It has become a cleaver name for the clothing selections and fits all sizes to 4X. There is Baddie-style Clothing, the Thrifted Baddie Section created for Y2K and early 2000s gems, a Baddies on a Budget Bin, and a Plus Baddies Section with stylish fits up to 4X with items like Charlotte Tilbury, R.E.M. Beauty, Jeffree Star, and more that won't break the bank. Shoppers can find heels and leopard print handbags to accessorize outfits.

Beauty services go beyond a trip to the beauty shop. Pretty Pink Tingz wants to bring a 'glow' to each customer. So, offerings include a High-End Cosmetics Bar including NYX to Charlotte Tilbury, Makeup Applications from soft glam to full beat to meet every occasion, Lash Extensions that can be custom fit to eyes and attitudes by including classic, hybrid, volume or mega, plus, Permanent Makeup that can enhance lips, brows and more for low-maintenance beauty with high-impact results.

Fifelski believes that fashion and art are for everyone. "Our space is all about inclusivity, creativity, and confidence — because when you look good and feel good, you shine from the inside out," interjects Sky.

The shop is open Mondays thru Thursdays from 9am-9pm. Fridays thru Sundays, the doors are open to the public from 7:30-10:30pm while other times are reserved for appointments.

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Yankee Springs gravel mine could affect Allegan County

By Gari Voss

Usually, the Special Land Use (SLU) Permits in one township do not raise concerns with other townships, but when the request is near a recreational lake that feeds other lakes and the Rabbit River, alarms are sounded. Such is the case with the desire to mine gravel from the corner of Bass and Payne Lake Roads in Yankee Spring Township.

The southeast corner of the intersection has its own history. In 2020 the farm on that section since land grant days was divided into four parcels. Two of the parcels now have homes while the third has the original farmhouse and some out buildings. The fourth parcel has been vacant, but the owner has discussed a plan to develop the property into multiple dwellings. Residents did not take offense to this until the owner began speaking with an engineering company, and the conversation moved to excavating sand and gravel from the area for five years before building homes.

The land around the proposed gravel mine has been for residential use. This includes the area north of Bass Road, west of Payne Lake Road, and east of Payne Lake Road. This would include Lindberg Park that is on Barlow Lake. Residents feel that all of these homes would be affected by the noise, dust, and increased traffic if such a mining operation were to be approved.

"This is a former farmers field and people are worried about chemicals that may be dug up and contaminate the lake," explained Julie Thorington, who lives on Barlow Lake. "They are also worried about the aquifer for the lake being hit. The water level in the lake had been significantly lower the last few years since the gravel pit on Payne Lake Road and Bowens Mills hit water. They are also worried about mud slides and soil erosion from the hill along the field which backs up to Heritage Bay Drive. Over 200 people signed a petition against this gravel pit, and 100 people from the area were at the meeting."

Since the area is truly residential, residents voiced that the approval of a SLU Permit would not meet the six criteria that the Planning Commission must follow. Thus, it was suggested that the township adopt a moratorium on gravel mining that would allow the township time to update their gravel mining ordinance. The amended ordinance could then specify to not allow gravel mining in residential areas.

An additional caveat to the request is the fact that the properties, including the farmhouse and areas to the west and south of Payne Lake Road, still hold their agricultural status according to zoning maps. In April 2025, the town adopted a 12-month moratorium referencing new gravel mining permits for properties zoned agricultural.

The fact that the Special Land Use would not match the six requirements for a SLU permit did not attract the attention of landowners, but the fact that digging for gravel could harm the aquifer did. More than 100 residents attended the Yankee Springs Township meeting on Thursday, August 21, 2025.

Just across the Allegan and Barry County lines lies a parcel of land at the Bass and Payne Lake crossroads near Barlow Lake. There have been discussions between the landowner and the Yankee Township Planning Commission to build homes on this parcel, but for 5-years prior to building, the owner wants to operate a gravel mining business. The landowners in this area of Barry County and in Allegan County are against such an endeavor.

The Planning Commission Chair Shana Bush read the petition that had been presented to the commission by those whose properties would be impacted by the gravel mining project. Catherine Durocher, who lives across from the mining on Bowen Mill Road explained how the noise and smell of diesel never end. Mike Cunningham reiterated that the zoning ordinance needs to be reviewed and revised to match the residential township that is suited to recreation, and not commercial or industrial. John Trygier followed with seven recommendations for the revised ordinance. Jill Trygier and Jared Nichols moved the public comments from quality of life and health of neighboring residents to the infringement on the aquifer.

Barlow Lake would be the first to be affected by a sand and gravel pit. Then Payne Lake and Gun Lake would feel the affects before changes reached the Rabbit River. For many years, conservationists have worked to clean up the Rabbit River that flows through Barry and Allegan Counties. That includes Leighton Township, through the Village of Hopkins and on to the Kalamazoo River.

The Rabbit River has an area favorable for salmonid spawning along with trout. This includes brown trout in the upper areas and steelhead in the lower areas. Add to that the catching of northern pike, plus largemouth and smallmouth bass, and this was an angler's paradise until the chemical contamination in 1990 caused a fish kill. Since that time, there has been extensive monitoring of fish in the river plus creating clean sediment basins.

If the aquifer is disturbed due to the mining of sand and gravel near Barlow Lake, it could affect the drinking water, agriculture, and local ecosystems. If the mining delves into the water table, existing wells could be compromised. Underground water could be lost leaving cavities that can collapse which would affect anything on the surface above them.

Should an aquifer be exposed to the elements, the drinking water could be contaminated. Any pollutants could move into ecosystems and lakes. In addition, the aquifer could be depleted which would cause lake levels to lower. Lower levels would harm aquatic and riparian plants and animals.

At this time, residents around the proposed sand and gravel pit along with those along the watershed that moves water from Barlow Lake to the Rabbit River and beyond are opposed to any additional mining in Yankee Springs Township.

Barlow Lake is a 187-acre inland lake. The Barlow Lake Association, a non-profit organization, works to preserve and protect the quality, safety and natural beauty of the lake and surrounding community. Thus, the Association works with environmental agencies, as well as state and local governments to ensure the quality of life for people along with environmental flora and fauna. The lake community and those along the Gun Lake watershed will keep monitoring the conversations between the Yankee Springs Planning Commission and property owners to maintain a healthy environment for all.

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For The Record

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Sept. 4, 1950

Luck was with Alleganite, 87: Frank Stratton, 87, of Allegan, proved Saturday that the Mercury, crack NYCRR steamliner, was not match for him.

Stratton escaped, unscathed, after tangling with the train while it was traveling 80 miles an hour.

He was heading toward Allegan after visiting his farm three miles east of Galesburg. He was halfway across the tracks when he heard the train's warning whistle. Instead of continuing, he began to back up when the train swooped down.

The impact tore off his radiator and a front fender, but by some freak of physics, threw the remainder of the car back, away from the track.

Sept. 4, 1975

Julie tries talent tonight: Miss Michigan 1975, Julie Ann Beckers of Allegan, will make her big try for the talent award tonight (Thursday) in the Miss America Pageant.

Julie will be dancing before a convention hall audience of about 9,000 persons, an experience to which she says she has been looking forward.

"I've never danced on such a huge stage as this one before and I have been really excited about it," Miss Michigan said.

"I couldn't wait to get the chance to rehearse on it. Being a dancer, it was a real thrill."

Julie said she was optimistic about the talent competition.

Sept. 7, 2000

Cheerleaders benched for 'offensive' shirts: Last March, Plainwell's cheerleading squad made headlines by winning the state competitive cheer title in Class B.

Now the Trojan cheer team is again in the news, although for a much different reason.

On Thursday, Aug. 31, seven of the team's 16 team members were suspended for the day as well as for Friday's home opening football game. Their offense was refusing to change a shirt that had been given to them as part of the team's camp.

The shirts, which read "Can't Touch This" across the front, were deemed inappropriate by the school's administrators, said Plainwell High School principal Linda Iciek.

"I observed the shirts in the halls before first hour," Iciek said. "Administrators in the school viewed the shirts as offensive.

"As administrators, we are responsible to ensure an environment that is free of sexual harassment. If we hadn't taken action and any male student had acted on the slogan, we would have been liable."

Therefore, Iciek said, she talked to the cheerleaders and gave them the options to change the shirt, cover it up or turn it backwards or inside out.

"After determining it was the cheer team, we talked to them and told them of their options," she said.

In question, Iciek said, wasn't the saying on the shirt, but rather it's placement across the girls chest. Cheer coach Jane Danhof agreed that part of the saying did run across the chest, but point out that it runs across the entire front.

The shirts were in no way meant to be offensive, Danhof said. Rather, they were referring to the team's recent success.

Sept. 3, 2020

Franklin shoots 80 to set 18-hole school record for Allegan: The Allegan girls' golf team traveled to Bedford Valley Golf Course for the Gull Lake Invitational on Wednesday, Aug. 19, marking the first competition of the season for the Tigers.

Emma Franklin appeared to be in mid-season form already.

Finishing with a score of 80, Franklin finished third among individuals in the eight-team event, setting a new 18-hole school record in the process.

Allegan coach Steve Angle wasn't surprised to see his star pupil perform so well despite the fact that it was early in the season.

"Emma played in tournaments all summer and she won many of them," Angle said. "She is scoring anywhere from 72 to 82 in most tournaments this summer and should break our 9-hole record of 38 this season, too.

"She is probably one of the strongest golfers in the Wolverine Conference and should be in the running to win Player of the Year honors. I expect that she will also end up competing for top ten at state tournament."

As a team, Allegan shot a 419 to place fifth. That score was 69 strokes better than the one the Tigers had in the same event last season.

Hope Lambert had the Tigers' second-best score with a 100 to finish 18th individually. Zoe Bronkema (117) and Mia Kolhoff (122) rounded out the scoring golfers for Allegan, with Leah Snyder (134) also competing.

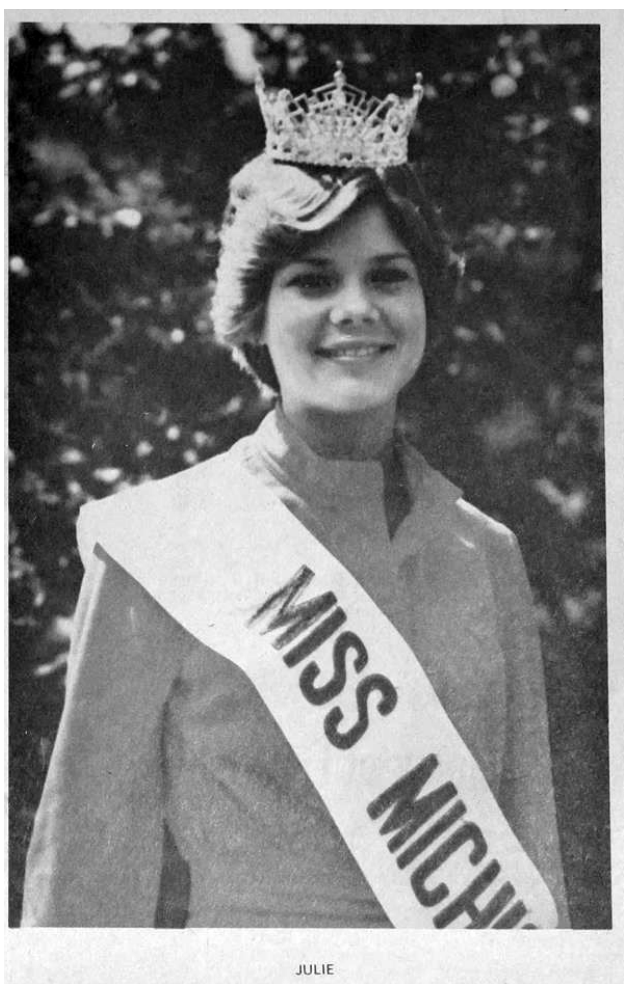
On Friday, Aug. 20, Allegan squared off with Unity Christian in a dual meet at Pigeon Creek Golf Course, falling by a score of 190-206.

Franklin again led the way for the Tigers, shooting a 40 to finish second individually. Bronkema shot a 52.

"(Bronkema) continues to improve her scores over last year," Angle said.

Lambert shot a 55, with Kolhoff (59) and Snyder (64) next in line.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

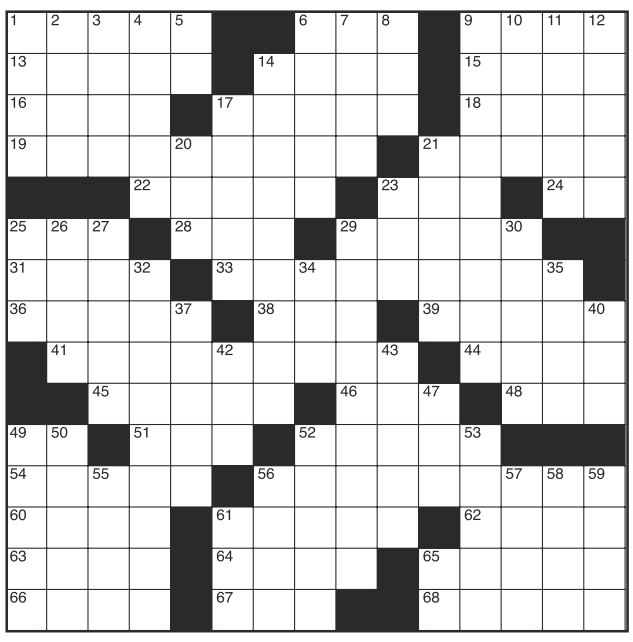


JULIE

Allegan's Emma Franklin, seen at the state finals last season, shot an 80 at the Gull Lake Invitational to set a new 18-hole school record. (Photo provided)

The Trojan cheerleaders sat watching Plainwell's home-opening game with their backs to the crowd last Friday. With seven of its members suspended and unable to participate, the entire team decided not to cheer. The eligible members did cheer in the closing minutes of the game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Fairly large
6. Barrels per day (abbr.)
9. Cover the entirety of
13. Leafy appetizer
14. Showy ornament
15. Norse personification of old age
16. Athletes
17. Closes tightly
18. Attack via hurling items
19. Where the reserves stand
21. Sword
22. Begat
23. Damage anotherÕs reputation
24. Northeast
25. Turf
28. For each
29. Hours (Spanish)
31. Western state
33. One who offers help
36. Flanks
38. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
39. Free from drink or drugs
41. Tunnels
44. Mature
45. More dried-up
46. News organization
48. Steal something
49. Forms one's public persona(abbr.)
51. Female fish eggs
52. Small petrel of southern seas
54. Edible starches
56. Historical
60. In a place to sleep
61. Horse grooms
62. Off-Broadway theater award
63. Chinese dynasty
64. Resembling a wing
65. Small projection on a birdÕs wing
66. Of the Isle of Man
67. Derived unit of force (abbr.)
68. Plate for Eucharist

CLUES DOWN
1. Vipers
2. Ancient city in Syria
3. Slog
4. Emits coherent radiation
5. 'Pollock' actor Harris
6. Bleated
7. Monetary units of Afghanistan
8. Tooth doctor
9. One who takes apart
10. Commoner
11. Beat poet Ginsberg
12. Cave deposit material
14. Home energy backup
17. Begets
20. Face part
21. Frocks
23. Hill or rocky peak
25. Giving the impression of dishonesty
26. About ear
27. Male parents
29. Popular grilled food
30. Vaccine developer
32. Not conforming
34. Polite address for women
35. 1970 U.S. environmental law
37. Astronomical period of 18 years
40. One who fights the government
42. Center for Excellence in Education
43. Watches discreetly
47. An electrically charged atom
49. Hymn
50. Arabic given name
52. Popular pie nut
53. City in Zambia
55. Species of cherry
56. John __, British writer
57. Be next to
58. Make angry
59. Give birth to a lamb or kid
61. Unhappy

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Deaths

August 11, 2025
KATHRYN SUE PLOTTS SHIMNOSKI, 81, Otsego

August 12, 2025
ROBERTO JO PALMER, 79, Allegan

August 13, 2025
ROSEMARY REIDSMA, 72, Fillmore Twp.

August 15, 2025
CRISTY LEE BERGSMA, 62, Salem Twp.

August 17, 2025
LOIS ANN BACH, 71, Otsego
PAMELA MARY CENTILLI, 81, Wayland
PATRICIA ANN COOLEY, 87, Leighton Twp.

August 18, 2025
COLIN SCOT LUEDECKING, 32, Trowbridge

August 19, 2025
DOROTHY ARLENE SHATTUCK, 84, Watson Twp
ROBERT LEE BORR, 72, Salem Twp.
RONALD ALLEN MILLER, 86, Otsego Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Aug. 19 and Aug. 27:

MARK NICHOLAS PERLOS, Saugatuck, and **MARGOT TALBERT**, Saugatuck
VICTOR GAY MCCLURE JR, Wayland, and **CHRISTIE LYNN WALKER**, Wayland
DONALD CLAYTON MILLER, Douglas, and **ALLENE JUNE WILLIAMS**, Douglas
JONATHON MICHAEL BLY, Allegan, and **MADELYN NOELLE BISHOP**, Allegan
RODNEY KEITH DOSS, Otsego, and **KELLY ANN HOWELL**, Otsego
MAXWELL ROBERT MINIAT, Allegan, and **SAMANTHA RENEE NICKERSON**, Gobles
HANNA KATHLEEN STEVENS, Allegan, and **TROY FREDRICK HERMAN**, Allegan
SAMANTHA VICTORIA MCPHARLIN, Allegan, and **MATTHEW JAMES ROSE**, Allegan
BRIDGETT KAYLI BIRD, Wayland, and **WILLIAM GREY CASTELLO**, Hopkins
JORDAN MICHAEL TOOKER, Allegan, and **ELISE MARIE TUCKER**, Allegan
DAVID EARL BATEY, Plainwell, and **VELISA NANNETTE SNYDER**, Plainwell
NICK DYKSTRA JR, Dorr, and **KELLY JOY WINGER**, Wayland
BRYANNA MARGARET POLEGA, Plainwell, and **GEORGE NATHANIEL PLESS**, Plainwell
DANIELLE JO FLICK, Otsego, and **CHARLES DANIEL GIERZ**, Otsego
KENDALL ROBERT NIEUWENHUIS, Plainwell, and **MORGAN JOY MARTIN**, Plainwell
TYLER MORGAN BEARD, Allegan, and **DEVON AYRE PLYLEY**, Allegan
ALAYNA MICHELLE OSKEY, Otsego, and **MASON WALKER KELBEL**, Otsego
PAUL JOSEPH RUPP, Hamilton, and **AMY JO DEHAAN**, Hamilton
ALEC MEYER GRADL, Allegan, and **TAYLOR LYN LISOWSKI**, Allegan
ALEXIS LEE WARE, Otsego, and **TYCE KENT COVEY**, Otsego
ALISA ROSE DEMOTT, Plainwell, and **CHARLES RANDALL BORDEN**, Plainwell
ERIN ELIZABETH GOLEMBIEWSKI, Plainwell, and **DAVID EUGENE MARKLE II**, Plainwell
JAXON RUGER FORD, Plainwell, and **GEORGIA MAE WALDRON**, Paw Paw

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4			7	9	3			
		1	5					
	5							
				2	4			8
6			1	3				
		9					4	

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE DUTY. ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Under the power of sale contained herein in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or a cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on September 18th, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE SALE – Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joseph J. Laroy Married Man and Pricilla Laroy, His Wife, original mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), as nominee for Decision One Mortgage Company, LLC, dated September 27, 2004, and recorded September 30, 2004 in Liber 2738, Page 108, in Allegan County records, Michigan, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on November 12, 2008 in Liber 3275, Page 667, and assigned to Household Finance Corporation III by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on April 10, 2012 in Liber 3607, Page 376, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF8 Master Participation Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on February 24, 2014 in Liber 3816, Page 688, and assigned to U.S. Bank Trust, National Association, as Trustee of the FW Series I Trust by an Assignment of Mortgage recorded on May 12, 2020 in Liber 4461, Page 226, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Seventeen Thousand Seventy-Six and 25/100 dollars ($117,076.25). Said premises are situated in the Township of Otsego, County of Allegan, and State of Michigan, and particularly described as: Lot 5, Oak View Farm, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 15 of Plats, Page 66, Allegan County Records. Property Address: 282 Zak Road, Plainwell, MI 49080 Parcel No.: 17-660-005-00 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: August 14th, 2025 For more information, please call: (440) 572-1511 Sottile and Barile PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 394 Wards Corner Boulevard, Suite 180 Loveland, OH 45140 File MF2410006 - Laroy, Joseph J.

(08-14)(09-04)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, Michigan starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on September 18, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Mortgage (the "Mortgage") made by Stacey Workman, a single woman, as Mortgagor to United Bank of Michigan, a Michigan banking corporation, dated March 14, 2025, and recorded on April 24, 2025, in Liber 5027, Page 846, Instrument No. 2025006302, recorded in Allegan County Records, Allegan County, Michigan. The balance owing on the Mortgage is $712,724.04 at the time of this Notice. The Mortgage contains a power of sale and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity has been instituted to recover the debt secured by the Mortgage, or any part of the Mortgage. The Mortgagee will apply the sale proceeds to the debt secured by the Mortgage as stated above, plus interest on the amount due at the rate of 6.875% per annum; all legal costs and expenses, including attorney's fees allowed by law; and also any amount paid by the Mortgagee to protect its interest in the property. The property to be sold at foreclosure is all of that real estate situated in the Township of Allegan, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, described as: Unit No. 31, Riverview Estates Condominium, according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 2457 on Page 438 and re-recorded in Liber 2492 on Page 682 and amendments thereto (if any), and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 189, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in above Master Deed, and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended. APN #01-555-031-00 Commonly known as: 1663 Fairview Dr., Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period shall be six (6) months from the date of sale pursuant to MCLA 600.3240(8), unless deemed abandoned and then pursuant to the time frames provided for in MCL 600.3241a. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. August 4, 2025 UNITED BANK OF MICHIGAN, Mortgagee PLUNKETT COONEY KELLI L. BAKER (P49960) Attorney for Mortgagee 333 Bridge Street NW, Suite 530 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49504 (616) 752-4624

(08-14)(09-11)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Ashley N. Rogers, an unmarried woman, whose address is 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR AMERFIRST FINANCIAL CORPORATION, being a mortgage dated April 1, 2022, and recorded on April 4, 2022 in Liber 4746 Page 448, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Carrington Mortgage Services, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated February 7, 2024 and recorded on February 7, 2024 in Liber 4919 Page 184, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY-SIX AND 50/100 DOLLARS ($161,946.50). Said premises are situated in the Township of Gun Plain, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: PART OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF SECTION 26, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 11 WEST, GUN PLAIN TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN; COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 26; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 26. 412.50 FEET TO THE PLACE OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS WEST ALONG SAID WEST LINE 198.00 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 47 SECONDS EAST 320.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 07 MINUTES 33 SECONDS EAST 198.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 59 MINUTES 47 SECONDS WEST 320.00 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SECTION 26 AND THE PLACE OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 219 4th Street, Plainwell, Michigan 49080 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: August 28, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6642

(08-28)(09-18)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: TERRI ANN BROWN has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2025 AT 10:00 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: TERRI ANN BROWN to TERRI ANN WALKER

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Saint Joseph County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tammy Smith

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Freedom Mortgage Corporation

Date of Mortgage: October 23, 2006

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 16, 2006

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $77,146.08

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Constantine, Saint Joseph County, Michigan, and described as: Lot 1, Northpark, according to plat of record in the Office of the Register of Deeds for

St. Joseph County, Michigan in

Liber 4 of Plats, Page 71.

Common street address (if any): 64517 US Highway 131 N, Constantine, MI 49042-9660

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 29, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1570528

(08-29)(09-19)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): James P. Huey and Betty A. Huey, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): VILLAGE CAPITAL & INVESTMENT LLC

Date of Mortgage: March 27, 2013

Date of Mortgage Recording: April 2, 2013

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $83,831.29

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of the Village of Douglas, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 21, Town 3 North, Range 16 West, Village of Douglas, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of said Section; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 1798.13 feet along the North line of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds East 60.00 feet; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 49.96 feet along the South right of way line of 130th Avenue to the point of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds East 291.40 feet; thence North 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds East 111.04 feet; thence North 00 degrees 57 minutes 13 seconds West (previously described as East) 291.40 feet; thence South 89 degrees 07 minutes 17 seconds West 111.04 feet along the South right of way of 130th Avenue to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 173 Wiley Rd, Douglas, MI 49406-5169

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: August 28, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1570317

(08-28)(09-18)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Garrett Jon Heasley, single man, whose address is 4289 30th Street, Burnips, Michigan 49314, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR NEIGHBORHOOD LOANS, INC., being a mortgage dated December 3, 2021, and recorded on December 9, 2021 in Liber 4706 Page 593 said mortgage was modified by a loan modification agreement, dated March 18, 2024, recorded April 4, 2024, Liber 4932 Page 41, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and assigned by said mortgagee through mesne assignments to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated November 30, 2023 and recorded on December 14, 2023 in Liber 4909 Page 2, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of NINETY-SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE AND 02/100 DOLLARS ($96,935.02). Said premises are situated in the Township of Salem, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: COMMENCING 214.5 FEET SOUTH OF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4; THENCE EAST 326.21 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 66 FEET; THENCE WEST 326.21 FEET; THENCE NORTH 66 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, SECTION 15, TOWN 4 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, SALEM TOWNSHIP, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN. Street Address: 4289 30th Street, Burnips, Michigan 49314 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: August 28, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6652

(08-28)(09-18)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in St. Joseph County, starting promptly at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 9, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Joshua Linn, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Ruoff Mortgage Company, Inc., Mortgagee, dated March 26, 2020 and recorded April 3, 2020 in Instrument Number 2020000054 St. Joseph County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Fifth Third Bank N.A., by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Four Thousand One Hundred Sixty-One and 42/100 Dollars ($74,161.42).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within St. Joseph County, Michigan at 10:00 AM on OCTOBER 9, 2025.

Said premises are located in the City of Three Rivers, St. Joseph County Michigan, and are described as:

The North 66 2/3 feet of Lot 9, Block 52 of BOWMAN'S ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF THREE RIVERS, according to the recorded plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 28 of Deeds on Page 105.

701 Portage Ave, Three Rivers, Michigan 49093

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period.

Dated: September 5, 2025

File No. 25-010100

Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC

Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084

Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400

(09-05)(09-26)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: JUAN JESUS ASCENSIO-TORRES has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025 AT 11:30 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: JUAN JESUS ASCENSIO-TORRES to JUAN JESUS ASCENCIO

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: EVAN MICHAEL BARNABY has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025 AT 11:45 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: EVAN MICHAEL BARNABY to EVAN MICHAEL WANDELL

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: ALYSSA BIRMAN has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 8, 2025 AT 1:00 P.M. at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: JAXSON LEE JAMES BIRMAN to JAXSON LEE JAMES MARKLEY

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 25-65803-DE and JUDGE

Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010

Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250

Estate of John Ray Keith Date of Birth:*7-4-1955

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, John Ray Keith, died 10-31-2021.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Faith D. Davis , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

8-25-2025

Christopher T. Antkoviak P59448

416 Hubbard Street

Allegan, MI 49010

(269)673-8468

Faith D. Davis

870 Tyler Road

Lennon, MI 48449

810-293-7139

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Trust

In the matter of the Joan E. Musgrave Trust established January 8, 1991; amended August 10, 2004, and September 13, 2012; restated February 4, 2014; amended May 24, 2022; restated February 25, 2025

Joan E. Musgrave was the grantor of the Trust and her date of birth was November 16, 1928.

TO ALL CREDITORS: **

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Joan E. Musgrave, died August 5, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the trust will be forever barred unless presented to

Steven P. Musgrave, Trustee, within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Jennifer A. DeYoung P55858

321 Settlers Road

Holland, MI 49423

616-392-1821

Steven P. Musgrave

3615 North Hamilton Avenue

Chicago, IL 60618

773-963-1358

STATE OF MICHIGAN

ALLEGAN COUNTY

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Trust

The Alice M. Brenner Trust U/A/D November 30, 1994, as amended Date of birth: 01-01-1932

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Alice Marie Brenner, who lived at 298 Kay Lane Apt. 218 Wayland, MI 49348 died 08-04-2025 .

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented to Janet Merren – Successor Trustee, 2045 Archwood Drive, Wayland, MI 49348 within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

8-25-2025

Christopher Antkoviak P59448

416 Hubbard Street

Allegan, MI 49010

269-673-8468

Janet Merren

2045 Archwood Drive

Wayland, MI 49348

269-509-2160

STATE OF MICHIGAN

PROBATE COURT FOR ALLEGAN COUNTY - NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Estate

CASE NO. 2025-25065573-DE: Court address: 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 Court telephone no.: (269) 673-0250

Estate of Norman Robert Rininger - deceased, dob: 09/07/1948

TO ALL CREDITORS: NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Norman Robert Rininger, died 02/15/2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Ellen Sue Rininger, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

August 27, 2025

Ellen Sue Rininger, 459 Walnut Drive, Fennville, MI 49408 269-857-4547

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 2, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Michael E Northern and Deborah M. Matheson, husband and wife, as tenants by the entirety

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): ServBank, N.A. fka ServBank, SB

Date of Mortgage: July 23, 2018

Date of Mortgage Recording: July 30, 2018

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $251,619.55

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Charter Township of Gunplain, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 7, Town 1 North, Range 11 West, thence South 86 degrees 28 minutes 37 seconds West along the South line of Section 7, 910.64 feet to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 86 degrees 28 minutes 37 seconds West along the South line of Section 7, 413.00 feet to the East 1/4 1/4 line of Section 7; thence North 02 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds West along the East 1/4 1/4 of Section 7, 1321.47 feet to the South 1/4 1/4 of Section 7; thence North 86 degrees 25 minutes 50 seconds East along the South 1/4 1/4 of Section 7, 2.64 feet to the Southerly line of Consumers Energy, thence South 57 degrees 37 minutes 48 seconds East along said ROW line, 503.19 feet; thence South 02 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East parallel to the East 1/4 of Section 7, 1026.45 feet to the South line of Section 7 and the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 1041 108th Ave, Plainwell, MI 49080-9524

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: September 4, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1570853

(09-04)(09-25)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL CREDITORS: The Decedent, Edna M. Fleming, whose last known address was 793 68th St., South Haven, MI 49090, died August 4, 2025. There is no Personal Representative of the Decedent's Estate to whom letters of administration have been issued. Creditors of the Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent's estate will be forever barred unless presented to Christina J. Fleming, Trustee of The Edna M. Fleming Trust Dated January 10, 2000, as Amended, within four months after the date of this publication. Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it. Dated: August 28, 2025 Christina J. Fleming, Trustee of The Edna M. Fleming Trust Dated January 10, 2000, as Amended 793 68th St. South Haven, MI 49090 Attorney for Trustee: Andrew W. Barnes (P70571) Butzel Long P.C. 317 Center Street South Haven, MI 49090 (269) 287-2010

(09-04)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on October 16, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Christine M. Mosley, a single woman Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: October 19, 2007 Recorded on October 26, 2007, Liber 3172, on Page 743, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Huntington National Bank Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Forty-Five Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Four and 44/100 Dollars ($45,454.44) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 Section 35, thence West 330 feet, thence North 264 feet, thence East 330 feet, thence South 264 feet to place of beginning. EXCEPT: Commencing at a point 165 feet North of the Southeast corner of the Southeast 1/4 as place of beginning, thence West 20 rods, thence North 99 feet, thence East 20 rods, thence South 99 feet to the place of beginning, Section 35, Town 2 North, Range 13 West. Commonly known as 1208 26th St, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. The Huntington National Bank Mortgagee/ Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1571261

(09-04)(09-25)

PUBLICATION NOTICE TO CREDITORS DECEDENT'S ESTATE STATE OF MICHIGAN, County of Allegan. In the matter of the Estate of Linda Lee Tropea, Deceased. Decedent's date of birth: April 9, 1950. Allegan County Probate File No. 25-65802-DE. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Your interest in this matter may be barred or affected by the following: The decedent, Linda Lee Tropea, lived at 5232 East Sunfield Lane, Fillmore Township, MI 49423 and died May 29, 2025. Creditors of the deceased are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to: Laura Terpsma, Personal Representative, at 160 Sorrento Drive, Holland, MI 49423, or to the Allegan County Probate Court at 113 Chestnut St., Allegan, MI 49010, within four (4) months of the publication of this notice. This notice is published pursuant to MCL 700.3801. Notice is further given that the estate will be thereafter assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to same. ATTORNEY: Mara Kent (P56305) Ferguson Widmayer & Clark PC 538 North Division Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 662-0222

(09-04)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: DANIELLE NICOLE LABRECQUE has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 9:45am at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: DANIELLE NICOLE LABRECQUE to DANNY NICOLE LABRECQUE

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CLASSIFIEDS

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Moving Sale/Garage Sale-Fri, Sat, 9/5, 9/6. 9 am to 5 pm. Rain or shine. 3208 Fair Haven Dr, Allegan. Furniture, and everything else you can think of. 8-28 9-4

Lawsuit

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M	A	N	X	■	D	Y	N	■	■	P	A	T	E	N

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RELIGION SECTION

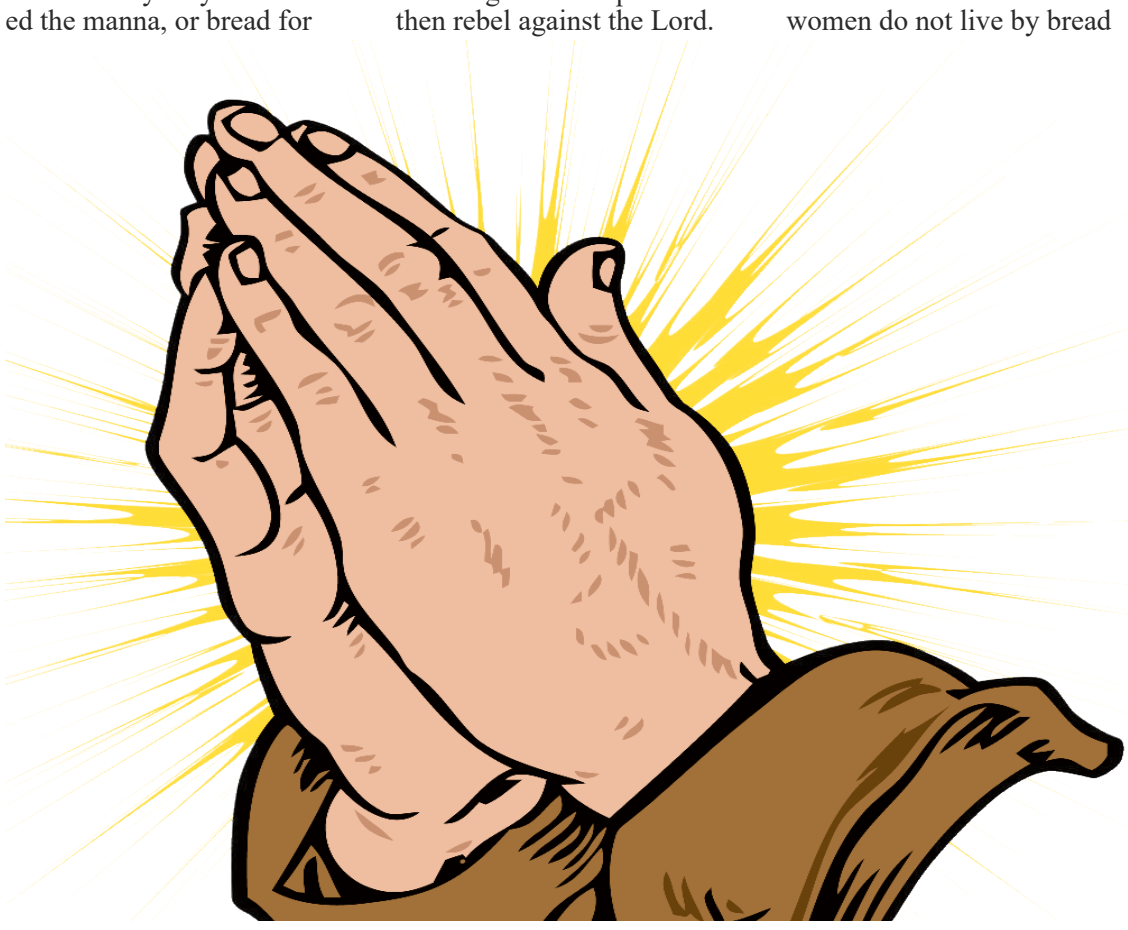
In the sixth chapter of St John's Gospel we read the well-known story of Jesus feeding the multitudes. At the end of his story, at the 15th verse, St John has a twist. Jesus realizes the attitude of the crowd has changed from the time they sat down to eat, and he doesn't like what is going on.

The people were beginning to speak of taking hold of Jesus and making him their king. It is a highly unlikely scenario, and it is even less likely to succeed. Their plotting was not because they loved Jesus and wanted to reward him, but because they believed that if Jesus was the king, there would be plenty of food for everyone, and all the time. To their way of thinking, it would solve all of their problems and bring an end to their worries.

Jesus was having none of it and slipped away up the mountain and into the rough country where he could hide out until the crowd had left. The offer must have been appealing: A ready-made large number of followers who could have helped spread the message about the Kingdom of God. But it was an offer with too many strings attached.

Perhaps Jesus remembered the story of how Moses had asked God to provide food for the Israelites in the dessert, and each day they harvested the manna, or bread for heaven. They ate, but after a while they were very weary of the same meal day after day, and they rebelled. How long would it be before the people on the shores of Galilee would have begun to complain and then rebel against the Lord.

Much closer to mind, perhaps he also remembered the temptation from Satan: Turn these rocks into loaves of bread and you will have your disciples. Jesus said 'no' and reminded Satan that men and women do not live by bread alone.



More importantly, a following of several thousand people, all expecting a meal every day, would have interrupted Jesus from the far more important work God had called him to do - to tell people about the Kingdom of God.

Jesus chose, and we know that he chose wisely. He turned down their offer and this opportunity. For that, you and I can only say, "Thank you, Jesus! Thank God for that!"

But what about us? Almost every day there is some sort of an offer or opportunity. Most of them are not wicked or sinful, but just not the right thing for us. Some are small; others are the very things we have dreamt of for years. Saying 'no' is not easy nor fun. But we must remain true to ourselves and true to the work God has called us to do.

At such moments we can do nothing better than to ask God to give us the courage and self-discipline to follow him.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
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Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
410 E. Orleans St.
Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist" 809 Airway Dr. – Highland Industrial Park 269-673-8488
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Waanders Concrete Co. Ready-Mix Concrete 3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan 673-6352
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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HomeServices Cheri Sleeman Schulz Associate Broker, REALTOR 269-720-4735 cherischulz@bhhsmi.com 430 Western Avenue, Allegan